



Tudor Grange Academy Solihull
Dingle Lane
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 3PD

20th September 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

It has been wonderful to welcome all of our students back to school. From the new Year 7 students to the young adults entering our sixth form in Year 12, it has been a pleasure to see them start the new term with positivity and demonstrating the Tudor Habits and Values that are so integral to the culture of the Academy.

During the first week back, I led assemblies for Year 7 – 13 and issued them with some updates and some key reminders about the year ahead. In my first letter to you this academic year, I want to share some of the same messages with you.

New staff

We now have 280 students in every year group (Year 7 – Year 11) and once again, we were oversubscribed for our sixth form places. To support our students, we have a growing team of staff and we have welcomed some new staff to the Academy this September. I list them below for your information.

Ms Woodburn	Teacher of MFL
Dr Bowie	Lead Teacher of French
Mrs Asghar	Teacher of IT and Computing
Mr Horton	Teacher of IT and Computing
Mr Graham	Teacher of IT and Computing
Mrs Richards	Teacher of History and Citizenship
Mr Harrison	Teacher of Maths
Mr Matthews	Teacher of Maths
Miss Muhith	Teacher of Maths
Ms Sangar	Curriculum Leader of Science
Mrs Kaur	Teacher of Science
Mr Sale	Teacher of Science
Miss Francis	Teacher of PE
Mrs Begum	Teacher of Food and Nutrition and Healthy Living
Miss Rollason	Duke of Edinburgh Manager and Educational Visits Co-ordinator
Mrs Khan	Classroom Supervisor
Miss Risbridger-Hill	Attendance Welfare Officer
Ms Chan	SEND and Careers Administrator
Mrs Stuart	Oak Admin Assistant











College Structure

At the start of the year, we always remind students of the college structure and ensure that they know who their College Leader and College Intervention Co-ordinators (CIC) are. The CICs are (non-teaching) staff who support the College Leader to provide academic and pastoral (including safeguarding) support.

For your information, we also have a dedicated administrator for each college. Details of this can be seen in the structure below so that you can familiarise yourself with the college team for your child(ren). The first port of call for communication should always be your child's form tutor who will re-direct the query if necessary.

COLLEGE STRUCTURE					
DARWIN	NEWTON	DA VINCI	MORSE	EDISON	BRUNEL
 Designated Safeguarding Lead	 Associate Principal				
Mrs Bradshaw <i>College Leader</i>	Mr Boyle Associate Principal / <i>College Leader</i>	Miss Knowles <i>College Leader</i>	Mr Wright <i>College Leader</i>	Mrs Fitzroy <i>College Leader</i>	Mr Davison <i>College Leader</i>
Miss Maddocks <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>	Miss Vanson <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>	Mrs Payley <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>	Miss Walsh <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>	Miss Harriman <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>	Miss Khalil <i>College Intervention Co-ordinator</i>
Miss Ali <i>Administrator</i>	Miss Davis <i>Administrator</i>	Miss Love <i>Administrator</i>	Mrs Priestley <i>Administrator</i>	Mrs Sword <i>Administrator</i>	Miss Kaur <i>Administrator</i>

Uniform

We are extremely proud of the high standards of uniform our students uphold and want to thank parents and carers for your support in this area. Uniform checks take place regularly in tutor time and you can monitor whether your child has been spoken to about their uniform by checking their SMART card.

I want to take this opportunity to remind you of the following with regard to uniform:

- Students in Years 8 – 11 should have a coloured blazer strip indicating their year group. In the case of misplaced / damaged strips, spares can be purchased from student services for £1 (we have a small supply with more on order). Year 7 students will receive their strips in the coming weeks.
- Sixth form skirts should not be shorter than 5cm above the knee. If you have a child in the sixth form, please check that their dress code meets this requirement.





PTA

We are extremely grateful to the PTA for their ongoing hard work in providing extra funding for the school which has helped a range of departments in recent years. This area of the [website](#) includes information about the PTA, including a summary of recent purchases. We would be particularly keen to hear from parents / carers who would be willing to join this group – even giving a small amount of time would be much appreciated. Please email your interest to PTA@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk.

Timetable changes

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have to make some changes to the English timetable in order to ensure consistency of staffing and provision. This means that some students will be told this week of changes to their timetabled teacher. These changes will take place with immediate effect. We regret having to make changes so early in the year, however we wanted to respond to this situation quickly to provide stability for students. The English department continue to follow a consistent curriculum throughout the school and this means a change in teacher should not impact on the curriculum provision. Thank you for your support and understanding at this time.

Open Evening

We are planning our open evening event for Thursday 6th October. To prepare for the event (including a deep clean) students will finish school at 2pm on that day.

Changes to the student planner

This year, we have made some changes to the student planner based on student and parent feedback. Please continue to check the planner on a regular basis, in particularly the pages where merits and penalties are recorded.

Punctuality focus

The school day starts promptly at 8.35am and students are expected to be in their tutor rooms / RHSE rooms at this time. We have noted that a significant minority of students are not arriving to school on time and will be monitoring this situation over the coming days. If students are not in their tutor rooms / RHSE rooms by 8.35am, parents / carers will receive a same day message detailing this. Please be reminded that three occasions of a student being late to tutor without a valid reason will lead to a college detention. Thank you for your support with this.

Local community

We want to ensure that we are good neighbours to those that live locally to the Academy and each year we remind students of the importance of good conduct on their journey to and from school. We would also like to remind parents / carers that they should not be parking or waiting in restricted areas. In particular, we would ask that cars are not blocking drives on Dingle Lane as this is regularly raised as an issue by our neighbours.

ParentPay

We would ask that you ensure that your child(ren) has sufficient funds in their ParentPay account to avoid them being in debit. We understand that many families will be affected by the rising cost of living and would urge anyone who requires any support to make contact with us via the office email. All communications of this nature will be treated in confidence and with sensitivity.





Attendance

Maintaining excellent attendance is vital for students if they are to make maximum progress at school. This [letter](#) contains more information about attendance procedures at TGAS.

As always, if you have any queries, please do get in touch by emailing the school office on office@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk.

Mr Pole and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has been wonderful to return to school following my maternity leave and we are looking forward to seeing many of you in person soon at the various events planned. The first of these is our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning on Thursday 29th September where we will be selling makes, cakes and bakes in support of this brilliant charity. Visitors will enjoy several performances from our school dance troupe and music ensembles. This event will be held in Oak Hall between 10am and 12noon and you and your family and friends are most welcome.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Smith
Principal

