

# The Vale Academy

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Principal: Dr Sarah Stokes

...Changing lives

#### **15 December 2023**

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Autumn Term 2023

As we approach the latter part of the Autumn term, I would like to provide you with an update from the academy.

#### **Christmas Closure**

We will be maintaining our normal curriculum arrangements up to Wednesday 20 December. **Thursday 21 December will incorporate lessons and celebration assemblies**. It is also our Christmas dinner day and students can wear a Christmas jumper if they wish (under their blazer, with their usual uniform).

As previously notified, Thursday 21 December, school will close early to students, at 1.15pm, school transport will arrive to collect students at 1.15pm except for the following shared transport: Johnsons 403, Hornsby's 405, 2Way 422S AND now Sherwoods, these buses will pick up at the usual time. You are, of course, welcome to collect your child at 1.15pm, otherwise children remaining in school will be supervised until 3pm. The academy will re-open 8.45am on Monday 08 January 2024.

#### **Enrichment**

This term our students have been involved in a number of experiences out of the classroom including visits to:

- Pinocchio Theatre visit
- Year 7 Pantomime visit
- Y8 Knives into jewellery workshop
- Illustrator workshops
- Brigg Community Remembrance Service
- CyberNorth
- North Star Science
- Latin Launch
- Last night of the Proms at St Lawrence Church

- Science Mavericks
- Lincoln University visit
- Yorkshire Sculpture Park
- Study United FC visit to St George's Park
- Y8 Paris
- Orsted
- Y7 and Y8 Dallowgill field trips
- Numerous Sporting Fixtures including badminton, golf, ten-pin bowling, cross country, cricket, netball and football

We would like to encourage as many students as possible to take part in our enrichment activities in 2024.

### Christmas Concerts and Around the World in 80 Days Performance

We hope that you enjoyed our Christmas music concerts earlier this week, thank you to everyone who supported them but most of all, thank you to our talented instrumentalists and choirs for showcasing their hard work. Students have also been working hard rehearsing for the Christmas performance of 'Around the World in 80 Days' on 19 and 20 December. Tickets are still available to buy via MCAS. Huge thanks to Mrs Stapley and Mrs Carmichael for all their time and effort in producing these events.

### **Student Reports**

Student reports for both KS3 and KS4 will be issued via My Child at School at the end of January. The reports for Year 7, 8 and 9 will be based on the results of the assessments that students have been sitting recently.

#### **Road safety**

To ensure that students/school buses are able to leave site safely, please can we remind you that parking/waiting in the bus circle from 2pm -3:30pm is not permitted. Also, please be patient when driving near the crossing as we have had a few occasions when cars are driven too quickly putting staff and students at risk. It is always our aim to prioritise student safety and we give them priority using the crossing.

We have also been asked, by those on the new industrial units (opposite Brigg Primary) to remind parents that they are not permitted to park on their premises as it poses a safety risk. Thank you for your support, patience and consideration.

#### Winter Weather

As we head into the winter months, we always expect to remain open. In the event of severe weather conditions (snow) you will appreciate this isn't always possible. Where this is the case we will communicate any school closures via the following lines of communication.

- My child at school app. We will text parents using the app.
- Academy Website all the latest news and events are held on our academy website and we will ensure any closure is featured as soon as possible.
- X (formerly known as Twitter) we have an active twitter account @TVAbrigg where we will post news and updates from the academy to compliment the information already available.

Where no updates have been provided parents should assume that the academy is open.

### **Uniform and equipment**

Can I please request that parents/carers continue to support us in ensuring students adhere to the uniform expectations shown at the bottom of this letter.

Please, over Christmas, could you check that your child has the basic essential equipment for all lessons including; pencils, pens, rubbers, sharpeners and crayons. We strive for students to be independent learners and would like them to come back in January equipped and ready to learn. Thank you.

Unfortunately, this term we will be saying farewell to Miss Clark (Science), we thank her for all the support she have given to students and wish her all the best for the future.

Moving forward to the end of another busy and successful term, all that remains is for me to wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year, on behalf of everyone at the academy.

Yours faithfully

Dr S Stokes Principal

## Academy uniform expectations:

- Blazer Academy blazer
- Trousers Plain style, black tailored trousers
- Skirt pleated black knee length skirt
- Shirt Plain style, white shirt buttoned to the neck
- Jumper v-necked plain black knit
   (Optional to be worn under blazer)
- Shoes Plain style, black polishable shoes. No embellishments. Boots are not permitted.
- Socks Plain style black. Tights Plain style black
- Academy tie to be always worn

- Plain black belt, with standard buckle only
- Delta PE kit should be brought in on the appropriate days
- No Jewellery/earrings/Apple watch or equivalent
- No make-up/false eyelashes/false nails/nail polish
- No fizzy drinks permitted
- Planner
- Black pen/green pen/pencil/ruler/calculator in a pencil case