



**Inspiring Education For All**

6 July 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians

As we rapidly head towards the summer holidays, I thought I would write to you with an update of some of the things that are going on at the academy.

To say this half term has been a busy one would be an understatement. With the lifting of COVID measures, lots of events and activities have been put on to offer students access to as many of those opportunities outside of the classroom as possible to ensure an 'Inspiring Curriculum for all'.

As well as exams and assessments across all year groups, most obviously the Year 11 GCSE exams, the events taking place include Barton Hall residential, college taster days, the academy Music Concert, Thorpe Park rewards trip, to name but a few. It is wonderful to see these events returning and adding so much value to the students' experience of school life.

**Oliver!**

The school production of Oliver! Is taking place next week on Thursday 14 and Friday 15 July. Tickets are on sale on ParentPay. Students and staff have been working really hard to get this production ready. I'm sure it will be amazing.

**Academy Day**

I wrote to you a few weeks ago regarding the changes to the timings of the academy day. The Department for Education requirement for all schools to be open to students for 32.5 hours per week has meant we have had to make some slight changes to the day. The new academy day for September will be as follows:

**The Academy Day: September 2022**

08:20	Arrival	Gates close at 8:27
08:30 - 08:35	Registration	Setting the tone of the day.
08:35 - 09:30	Lesson 1	
09:30- 10:25	Lesson 2	
10:25 - 10:45	Break 1: Yr. 7, 9 & 11	Form 1: Yr. 8 & 10
10:45 - 11:05	Break 2: Yr. 8 & 10	Form 2: Yr. 7, 9 & 11
11:05 - 12:00	Lesson 3	
12:00 - 12:55	Lesson 4	
12:55 - 13:25	Lunch 1: Yr. 7, 9 & 11	Read to Succeed: Yr. 8 & 10
13:25 - 13:30	Changeover	Changeover
13:30- 14:00	Lunch 2: Yr. 8 & 10	Read to Succeed: Yr. 7, 9 & 11
14:00 - 14:05	Changeover	Changeover
14:05 - 15:00	Lesson 5	

6 hrs and 30 mins per day = 32.5 hours per week

**Headteacher: Mr M Lawrence BSc Hons.**

Buckler's Mead Academy, Part of the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership  
Company Registration Number 07365778, VAT Number: 115 2460 50



Midsomer Norton  
Schools Partnership

## **Catering**

From September 2022 the catering at Buckler's Mead Academy will be moving in-house and will offer a selection of meal options for both students and staff, on a three week rotation. Menus will be published on the Buckler's Mead website in due course, though please note that these can be subject to change depending on availability of raw ingredients and what is in season.

Some of our freshly cooked main meals need to be pre-ordered. If your child would like one of these meals, please could they ask one of our Kitchen staff as early as possible and they will be pleased to help.

Those students entitled to a free school meal will have £2.50 to spend at lunch service each day. This provides a main meal, drink and either fruit or dessert. Please note that any unspent amounts are not carried forward to subsequent days. There is also a free to use water cooler in the refectory, available to all students.

To support the Trust's policy on maintaining cashless schools, all purchases will need to be made via a student's catering account, with funds credited via ParentPay. The existing cash unit in the refectory will no longer be available from September. Any parent who requires a reminder of the initial details required to set up their ParentPay facility should email [office@bucklersmeadacademy.com](mailto:office@bucklersmeadacademy.com) and we shall be pleased to reissue your codes.

The Trust suggests a daily spend limit for secondary pupils of £7.50. A lower limit can be applied upon request.

## **Arrangements for Last Day of Summer Term**

Due to the Jubilee Day on Friday 22 July 2022, the last day of term will be Thursday 21 July 2022. We will finish at lunchtime. Students will return to their tutor groups at 11.55 pm (at the end of Period 3).

- Year 10 will then leave at 12.10 pm
- Year 9 will leave at 12.10 pm
- Year 8 will leave at 12.20 pm
- Year 7 will leave at 12.25pm

If you have any issues with childcare arrangements and need your child to stay in the academy until the end of the day, please contact the main office.

## **Returning in September**

In September the academic year starts with two INSET days (Thursday 1 and Friday 2 September). All students will return on Monday 5 September. There will be a staggered start to the day to allow for our Launch Pad Days. These days are when we set the expectations for the year ahead and ensure students return to the academy ready to learn.

8.30 am	Year 7 start
9.30 am	Year 10 start
11.00 am	Year 8 start (go to assembly) Year 11 start (go to tutor groups)
12.00 midday	Year 9 start

<https://www.midsomernortonschoolpartnership.com/uploads/pdf-files/1667-Term Dates and Holidays 2022-23 with Inset Days.pdf>

## **Changes to the Pastoral Structure**

Following a significant review of our Pastoral system, we will be making some changes moving forward. We will be moving from 5 Teaching Year Coordinators to 3 Academic Leads.

The Academic Leads will have strategic oversight for:

Year 7 and Year 8	Ms Sims
Year 9 and Year 10	Mr Barker
Year 11 and Pupil Premium	Mr Gold

We will also have 5 non-teaching members of staff who will take responsibility for the pastoral care of each year group. In addition to this we will continue to have our Student Counsellor, Careers Advisor and dedicated Safeguarding Lead as part of this team.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss any aspect of this letter, please do get in touch. In the meantime thank you very much for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Lawrence', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**MR M LAWRENCE**  
**Headteacher**