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**NEWARK**  
ACADEMY

7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer(s),

As we approach the final weeks of this half-term we wanted to provide an update around two key strands of how we communicate the progress and attitude to learning of children at Newark Academy. We also wanted to share a key piece of information regarding an early closure next week.

### Achievement Evenings

Achievement evenings take place across the year for all year groups (year 11 have two evenings). These events provide an opportunity to visit school and to get inside the detail behind the data in your child's progress report. You will have the opportunity to meet with each of your child's teachers, across all subjects, to discuss the progress being made through the curriculum, areas to focus on for improvement and general attitude to learning in lessons. We aim to have 100% of parents/carers at these events.

Achievement evenings run from 3.30pm-7pm to provide ample opportunity schedule all appointments. As a result, our Academy will **close early on achievement evenings at 2.05pm for all year groups** to allow adequate preparation time for these events. This obviously has an impact on bus transport and please see the bullet points below for details of how this will affect each service:

- The school bus 683 to Farndon will be rescheduled to leave the school site at approximately 2.10-2.15 pm.
- The community buses unfortunately cannot be rescheduled. Students who use No. 2 Winthorpe will need to catch the Stagecoach service 3N outside Lidl at 2.25pm and then transfer to service 2N at the bus station.
- Students who use the 686 Barnby in the Willows service will be required to make alternative travel arrangements.

Please note NA6 students will be expected to remain in school as usual to complete independent study unless transport issues prevent this. Please also be aware that Enrichment activities on this day will be cancelled.

If this presents any issues for families please get in touch so that we can support.

The first instance of this early closure will take place on the following date:

- **Year 11 Achievement Evening – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

This will be followed by evenings in December for year 10 and in to the new year for other year groups. We will send a separate letter in due course to confirm the specific dates so that you are able to put these into your diary.

### **Attitude to Learning**

At Newark Academy we are passionate about supporting our students to become lifelong learners who have the skills and attributes to achieve ongoing success. Our 'Attitude to Learning' (ATL) programme is a key aspect of this work and helps us to understand where your child is excelling, but also where they need to improve, and we are keen to inform you of their early success through our upcoming ATL progress checkpoint.

We expect all students to demonstrate our GREAT values (Gratitude, Responsibility, Excellence, Aspiration, Tenacity) on a daily basis and this, in combination with our ATL strategy provides students with the platform to challenge themselves and develop as confident independent learners.

Teachers and students have worked incredibly hard together since returning in September and our teachers have been carefully monitoring how students have responded to the challenges of a new school year and will shortly provide each child with their first ATL score of the year. As you may know, our ATL process involves providing students with a score, 1 to 4, across all subjects, where 1 equates to outstanding. We then combine these scores across student's subjects before calculating an overall average score. We have recently updated our criteria to raise our expectations even further for those students who demonstrate strong attitudes to learning.

Once this initial process is complete we will share a short report with parents to enable you to see how your son/daughter is progressing so far in each subject. This is not our 'full' report (these will be sent later in the year) and instead is a simple snapshot of students attitude to learning so far. This information will further enable us to work closely with students, alongside the support from parents, to ensure they are well placed to make continual improvements across the academic year. You will be able to access your child's first Attitude to Learning report over the next week using our parent portal, 'My Child At School'(MCAS).


If you are unable to access MCAS please contact Katrina Butler ([kbutler@newarkacademy.co.uk](mailto:kbutler@newarkacademy.co.uk)) for support. Students will also be provided with a paper copy of this.

In addition to this first reporting window there will be two further collection points across the academic year. These further points will provide more in-depth progress data in addition to attitude to learning to help you further understand your child's progress in their lessons. These will take place in the following months:

- December – Year 11 and 13
- January – Years 8 to 12
- March – Year 11 and 13
- July – Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12
- We will contact you around each of these points to let you know when reports are available to view.

I hope you find this information useful and we'll be in touch again in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Brown', written in a cursive style.

Mr S.Brown  
Deputy Head  
Newark Academy