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NEWARK
ACADEMY

13/12/24

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last Thursday, the Department for Education released the 2024 GCSE outcomes measures. This information is presented as a number called Progress 8, which measures the progress of students across their best eight subjects. The P8 figure allows schools to then compare their students' results to the achievements of students in other schools with the same prior attainment. The average national figure is 0.

Our provisional P8 figure for 2024 GCSE results is +0.40. This means that, on average, Newark Academy students achieve **a third of a grade higher** than students in other schools with similar Key Stage 2 scores. Furthermore, we are extremely proud to share that our P8 figure (+0.40) places **Newark Academy as the highest achieving school in Newark and 5th in a ranking of 79 Nottinghamshire schools**. You can find more information about the performance of schools, either locally or nationally, via the following website link:

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/144489/the-newark-academy>

These GREAT results do not happen by accident. They are the result of hard work over time. What makes Newark Academy such an amazing school is the relentless determination of the whole school community to ensure our learners succeed. I am therefore delighted that the hard work of our staff and students has been reflected and rewarded by these results. Of course, none of this would be possible without parents and carers, who have supported us over the last five years in shaping the academic and personal experiences of our students.

In addition to this excellent news about our GCSE results, this week we have enjoyed rewarding our students for excellent attendance, behaviour and attitude to learning. I have sent 532 emails to the students with 100% attendance and 483 emails to the parents/carers of students with zero negative behaviour points.

One of the many strengths of our school is our sixth form, and our older students always act as excellent role models for the younger students. This week, they have excelled themselves in the way they have led our 'Receiving and Giving' week, raising money for charity by organising a number of events for everyone to enjoy and take part in. As a school community we have raised over £400 this week.

Attendance Update

At Newark Academy we are committed to providing the best possible learning experiences for your children, and positive attendance plays a vital role in their academic success and overall development.



We understand the importance of family time, however, we kindly ask that you refrain from booking holidays during term time. Absences due to holidays can significantly impact your child's learning and progress. Furthermore, the Education Welfare Service has introduced updated protocols regarding attendance, which we are required to enforce. More information on these new enforcement guidelines can be found here - <https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/19/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

We want to avoid these measures where possible and work together to ensure your child receives uninterrupted education. If you have exceptional circumstances that you may require absence for during term time, please contact the school attendance team as soon as possible to discuss the situation.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in supporting your child's education.

Uniform and equipment expectations

As a polite reminder please can we ask that you check that your child is fully equipped for their return to school on Tuesday 7th January 2025. This includes bringing a pencil case containing two black or blue pens, two pencils, a ruler, rubber and pencil sharpener.

It is important that our students should have a sense of belonging and common purpose, and our uniform is one way we achieve this and avoid social differences. We will be conducting uniform checks on the first day back and expect all students to continue to wear the correct uniform. This also includes a bag pack. A final reminder please that piercings, jewellery and false eyelashes or nails are NOT part of the school uniform. For more information on our school uniform policy, please click here <https://www.newarkacademy.co.uk/page.php?p=uniform>

Key Events for Half Term 3

Tuesday 7 th January	Start of Spring Term
Thursday 9 th January	Y11 Achievement Evening
Thursday 30 th January	Y8 Achievement Evening
Wednesday 12 th February	School Production – Bussy Malone
Thursday 13 th February	School Production – Bussy Malone

Please remember that Monday 6th January is an Inset Day and students will therefore return to school on Tuesday 7th January.

Finally, as 2024 draws to its close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your continued support this year and to wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards,

Inma Peña
Headteacher
Newark Academy