

Dear Parents/Carers

After the recent atrocities in Manchester it has become clear that we need to do everything we can to further ensure the safety and well-being of our young people. To this end, I would like to thank all parents who have supported us in keeping our site safer by not bringing unnecessary traffic into the Academy, which means we can monitor visitors to the site and protect students and staff alike. After the half-term break we will also need to discuss our 'Lock-Down Procedure' with students. This will ensure we are capable of responding in the event of a critical incident at the Academy, which could be for any number of scenarios such as a dangerous animal or chemical leak in the building. I know, from when my own children went through the 'Lock- Down Procedure' in their schools, that it can lead to anxiety. Please be prepared to reassure your children that the chances of a critical incident occurring are minimal, just like a fire on site, but that it is important to have a procedure in place to keep us all safe.

The Academy is being used as a polling station **on Thursday 8th June** and I had originally planned to keep the Academy open. I now think it would be more prudent **to close to all students except for those sitting examinations**. There will be a skeleton staff on site including the Senior Leadership team. I apologise for the relatively short notice given for you to make alternative child-care arrangements, but trust you will understand the need to put the safety of our students first.

Finally, I am still hearing from staff of the occasional incidence of threatening behaviour from a few parents. This has occurred in face-to-face meetings, telephone calls and emails. Our vision of 'Living Well Together' must be borne out through every interaction we make, so that our children learn from positive role models. Unfortunately, I have had to take the measure of banning parents from site after threatening behaviour, and I will continue to take this stand to ensure the staff and students have a safe environment in which to work.

I hope you are having a peaceful and relaxing break and I look forward to the final summer half term when we will celebrate the marvellous achievements that our students have made throughout the year.

Liz Furber
Principal

Summer Term Calendar

5th June

Students return to the Academy

7th June

All Saints Academy Mock Election

8th June

General Election: ACADEMY CLOSED

14th June

New Year 7 Welcome Evening

15th June

Year 10 Careers' Day

19th June

Arts Showcase

23rd June

Year 11 Leavers' Day and Celebration

29th June

Public Examinations End

30th June

Rewards' Trip Thorpe Park/Year 13
Leavers' Day

3rd July—7th July

Year 10 Work Experience/Years 7,8,9 and
6th Form Enrichment Week

7th July

Year 11 Prom

10th July

New Academic Year Begins

13th July

Awards' Evening

14th July

HRFS Concert

21st July

End of Term—Early Closure

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing this piece having just watched the final instalment of 'Three Girls', the BBC's dramatised version about real-life grooming and sexual abuse of young girls in Rochdale. It was both harrowing and yet compulsive viewing, showing the failings of several agencies over safeguarding. I'm pleased that there is now far better co-ordination of inter-agency work but, more importantly, that young people are believed when they tell their difficult stories. At All Saints Academy, we take safeguarding very seriously because the safety of the children and young people in our care is of paramount importance. That issue of safety manifests itself in many forms. The NSPCC defines it as *'the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm'*. When we interview staff at All Saints, for whatever position, they are always required to answer a question about safeguarding, in addition to us conducting all the background checks that are required. What you might be unaware of is that when Ofsted visit on inspection, the very first thing they check is that all safeguarding procedures are in place. If they are not then the judgement will immediately be Inadequate, regardless of whether the teaching and learning is outstanding or not. You will see in our latest report a small section on Safeguarding with the single line at the end *'The arrangements for safeguarding are effective'*. Therefore, as parents and carers, you can feel assured that your child will always be responded to in the most appropriate way should their safety be in question. What I would also say is that I believe we have one of the best Student Support teams that I have come across in any school, so when issues do arise, they are dealt with as quickly and efficiently as possible. If you have any concerns about your child's safety, in whatever form that takes, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy and we will listen to you.

David Fraser
Chair of Governors

Greater Manchester Appeal

Our Student Voice Team were eager to do anything they could to support following the tragedy in Manchester. At the time, no charities had been established to support the victims and so students decided they would like to box up and send 'morale booster' packages to the hard working men and women of Manchester emergency services.



In two days we managed to fill 12 plus boxes of goodies, including sweets, mints, biscuits, soups and other wonderful treats. Word spread to the wider community of All Saints and donations were brought in by 'Street Life' who spoke highly of the work our students were doing. At the time of writing, eight boxes are on their way to Manchester with the following receiving two each; the Chief Inspector of Greater Manchester police who spent a week managing the scene in Manchester, a fire station based next to the arena itself, Greater Manchester Central Ambulance Station who recently featured in the news as being first on the scene and two to Greater Manchester Children's Hospital (recently visited by Her Majesty, The Queen.)



I'm astounded at how well students and parents have responded in such a short period.

Nick Carter
Student Voice Co-ordinator

Year 11 Leavers

Our official Leavers' Day is **Friday 23rd June** and students are invited to join us at 11.15am for a special celebration of their time with us. Rather than wearing Academy uniform, they should "dress to impress" as if they were attending a special family occasion and they may bring their Academy shirt to be signed by friends and staff. Refreshments will be provided and we expect the event to be finished by around 12.45pm with students free to leave the Academy site at this point.

We are aware that some students will have their final examination on the morning of 23rd June, but we know that they will have time to change and prepare themselves for the celebration before the official start of the event.

We will then be looking forward our Prom on **Friday 7th July**, which takes place this year at Putteridge Bury Campus, a beautiful location for such an important event. Tickets go on sale for eligible students on 7th June.



We wish all of our students continued success in their examinations and look forward to seeing the results of all of their hard work on **Thursday 24th August** on GCSE Results Day.

Salema Khatun
Head of Year 11

Examination Season 2017

Public examinations are now underway and I would like to congratulate our students on the way they have approached each important paper. We have had 100% attendance and exemplary exam behaviour. The examinations continue after half term and I would be grateful if everyone could put their examination timetable, examination pencil case and swipe card in a safe place ready for Monday 5th June.

Keri Kropelnicki
Examinations Manager

Prom Tickets

Prom Tickets will go on sale on Wednesday 7th June and will be available to any student who has 7 or fewer behaviour points, who has maintained good attendance and who has attended every examination without prompting. Tickets are £30.00 with support for Pupil Premium students and discounts for those with achievement league points to cash in.

Arrangements for June Exam Preparation

Year 11 students will continue to follow their current timetables after half term. All subject teachers have both a detailed breakdown of the exam and revision calendar and a clear picture of what subjects all year 11 students are studying. They should, therefore, be prioritising work with Year 11 students who will have access to a range of ICT facilities when in subjects that are now complete. Students will be able to choose to either complete outstanding coursework or access revision and support material such as GCSEPod, Method Maths or the vast array of subject specific material that staff have uploaded to the H Drive, VLE and Academy website.

Andy O'Rourke
Head of Intervention

Literacy

As always we try to put literacy at the *omphalos* of school life. You may well be wondering what an *omphalos* is! I would hope that your son or daughter would be able to tell you that it means 'the center or hub of something'. Words such as these have been part of our 'word of the week' programme this year and have been shared in form time and around the school. By sharing unusual, as well as ambitious, words we hope to widen and deepen the vocabulary of all the students.

Jo Goodchild

Lead Teacher of Learning to Learn

Homework Club

Our Homework Club runs every day in the Café from 3.00pm—4.00pm and students from all year groups are welcome to attend.

Our Student Support Workers are on hand to assist and squash and biscuits are available too. We have looked at our behaviour points and will send an invitation to Homework Club to any student who is regularly gaining points for failing to produce their homework. We hope that they will value this support.

Show My Homework

We value the support that families give to their children in completing homework. All parents and carers can access the SMH website via any device that is internet enabled to see what homework has been set for their child and the deadlines for each piece. We try to provide logins to new starters and at each Parents/Carers' Evening. If you, or your child, require a login for Show My Homework, please contact martinserrao@allsaintsacademydunstable.org

Work Scrutiny

We decided recently to use leadership meetings to develop a new version of our marking and feedback policy which centres on Identifying '*what went well*' and '*even better if*' and then putting this alongside a '*Now*' task to demonstrate improvement through a response to the feedback. Teaching staff and Student Support Workers '*walked the journey*' so they could see how their expectations can change. With their higher expectations we expect higher outcomes! Work Scrutiny is a very important source of inspection (and leadership) evidence for both teaching and achievement. At All Saints Academy, this is undertaken as part of lesson observations and 'book looks'. It is useful as it provides evidence for teaching over time and its impact on learning and progress over time. It has all the evidence we need to prove that we are a learning school with a big focus on individual and collective responsibility.

Martin Serrao

Vice Principal (Teaching & Learning)

Low Level Disruption Survey

At the start of the Summer Term, we asked our students to identify others in their teaching groups whose behaviour was affecting their learning. We took this information and held conversations with those students in all years who were identified by a number of their peers to make them aware of the consequences of their behaviours. These conversations have largely been positive and we have seen improvements in many areas. We have repeated the survey in the week leading up to half term and we hope to see far fewer students identified as causing low level disruption to learning.

Elaine Boyd

Vice Principal

Attendance Matters

Congratulations to all students who are maintaining their attendance at, or above, our Academy target of 96%. Individuals with high, or improved, attendance will be acknowledged at our End of Year assemblies and there will be another prize draw to encourage attendance right at the end of the Summer Term. Please take a moment to familiarise yourselves with our Attendance Policy as this will explain why we send reminder letters and at which points we have to take formal action on lateness and non-attendance.

Robbie Swain
Attendance Officer

Warm Weather

After some very wet and cold weather, we have been hit by a spell of warmer weather this week. All of our classrooms have automatic ventilation systems which open the windows as rooms heat up. In addition, students will be permitted to remove their blazers in classrooms. If it becomes exceptionally hot, we will advise parents/carers of "no blazer" days as we did last summer. In the meantime, please ensure that your child returns to the Academy with correct uniform on 5th June.

The Personal Development Programme

We would like to thank all staff and students who have contributed to a very vibrant **Personal Development Programme** in the first half of the Summer Term. When we return after our half term break, we will be exploring the values of **Excellence** and **Faith**. Our Learning to Learn theme will be **Application of Skills** and our PSHCE topics will all be linked to **Celebrating Difference**. We will, of course, be looking forward to our Enrichment Week and to our Year 10 students starting their Work Experience placements. We hope that all students will feel inspired to join in and experience new challenges in the months ahead.

Elaine Boyd , Vice Principal
(Personal Development, Behaviour and Safety)

MyEd Update

We now have 140 users of the MyEd App who receive their child's punctuality and attendance data and behaviour and achievement points directly to their smartphone or tablet.

Year 7 Transition

Our Year 7 Transition Evening takes place on **Wednesday 14th June** and we will be inviting a number of students to support with welcoming the newest members of the All Saints family. In July, we have our Enrichment Week, and our new Year 7 students will join us on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th July for a range of exciting activities which we hope will make them feel both settled and welcome to the Academy.

Miles Walbank
Head of Year 7

Public Praise

Thank you to the member of the public who contacted us to share the following email

"I just wanted to thank some pupils who attend your school. This morning I had fallen off my push bike on the village green in Houghton Regis and 3 pupils stopped and checked that I was OK and helped me back on my feet. I was, needless to say, quite embarrassed but the young people were so lovely, I can only smile and chuckle about the event."

This is a fantastic example of our students demonstrating how we "Live Well Together".

Enrichment Week 2017

We are working on the final touches to our Enrichment Week programme and the outline of what is on offer is shown below. The week provides an opportunity for every student and every member of staff to step outside their comfort zone, take on new challenges and gain new insights and experiences. We very much want all students to participate in all of our activities and hope that we have offered enough variety to appeal to everyone. Each year group will have at least one Educational or Residential Visit during their week.

The **Year 7** programme starts with an overnight camping experience and continues with a programme of Careers Education, Arts and Sports. Students in **Year 8** will be working on either their Arts Award or Stem Award accreditations and will have a day trip into London to support this. **Year 9** will be starting their week with a special incident hike, followed by an overnight camp and sessions on life skills. Our **Year 10** students will, of course, be out on work experience and our **Sixth Form** students will be focusing on life skills and preparation for university and work. Thank you to all students who have returned reply slips and deposits so far. We know this will be a really memorable week for all.

Michelle Watt

Head of Character Education

Costs and Support for Enrichment Week

We have tried to keep all costs for Enrichment Week activities as low as possible. Students who are entitled to Pupil Premium support will receive financial assistance with these activities too. We do not want cost to be a barrier to participation, so please contact us if you want your son/daughter to take part but might struggle to meet all of the costs.

Jackie Proctor

Assistant Principal (Pupil Premium and SEND)

Work Experience

Many of our students have confirmed placements for Work Experience and paperwork has been sent home as it arrives. Some placements will require an interview, some a specific uniform and there may be variations to the agreed days/hours of work. The outline of this information is included in initial paperwork. Now is also a good time to have a discussion with your child to plan travel, taking into account timings of the journey.

Where possible, students should make contact to arrange interviews for themselves, as this forms part of the work experience and understanding of the world of work. If any student is struggling with this I am, of course, here to offer support.

In the fortnight leading up to the placement, I will be sending home **WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENT PACKS** which include:

- Student Placement confirmation (copy)
- Employer Evaluation –to be given to Employer at start of placement
- Student Evaluation Report-to be completed by Student on completion of placement
- Job Description (copy)

Whilst many students have placements fixed, we still have some who are finding this challenging. If you are aware of any organisation or business who could support our young people for Work Experience w/c 3rd July 2017, please make contact with me as soon as possible.

Jo Ojulah

Parental Engagement and Careers Co-ordinator

Young Carers' Award



Young carers are responsible for emotional, practical or physical care for a parent, sibling or other family member who has a physical disability, mental health issue or substance misuse issue. The 2011 Census statistics revealed that there are just over 166,000 young carers in England, but research reveals that this is just the tip of the iceberg. The true figure could be closer to 700,000 young carers in England, equivalent to one in 12 school children many of whom are unrecognised and unsupported. We are delighted to have received our Bronze Young Carers' Award which recognises the excellent support provided by the Academy to those who require additional help because of their caring commitments.

Anita Pullen
Children and Families Support Worker

Lost Property

Thank you to everyone who collected items from our Lost Property rail last week. All remaining items have now been given to a local charity. In the week beginning 19th June, we will produce a Lost Property slideshow for form time to give students the opportunity to spot their missing items. On 30th June, any unclaimed items will again be given to charity. Please label your child's belongings and encourage them to check the rail regularly.

Swipe Cards

All students require their swipe card every day. It is used for access to the building, for examination identification, for printing class and homework and for payment for meals in the Café. Students without their swipe cards can cause the lunch queue to move more slowly. After half term, all students will need their cards and priority will be given to those who can show them at the start of the lunch queue with others having to wait until later. New cards can be purchased for **£2.50** at Student Reception.

Mock General Election

On June 7th, we will be having "mock" election in the Academy. All students will vote in polling booths by secret ballot and there are five excellent candidates. Each one is representing one of the main UK parties and students are putting in a huge amount of work into their campaigns. Students involved in the campaigns are also visiting the Houses of Parliament on June 19th for a tour and workshop on debating laws—an exciting opportunity to learn about one of the worlds oldest parliamentary democracies and see it in action! It is truly wonderful to see young people from different year groups working together and engaging in the political process.

Iain Grant
Cover Manager

Lockers

We will be continuing our locker scheme into next academic year but would like to create a system where each year group have their lockers in the same area of the Academy. To enable this to happen, we will need to recall all existing locker keys. We would be grateful if everyone could hand their key in when requested (before the end of the summer term) and a new locker key will be issued in September. Students without a locker key to hand in will need to pay £5.00 for a replacement locker. All lockers will be checked and cleared during the summer break with contents going into bins or lost property.

Non Uniform Day Outcome

Our most recent non-uniform day raised over £800 with the money being split between the Year 11 Prom and the Transplant Games Recreational Fund who will be supporting Year 9 student, Robert Collins, as he prepares for the British Transplant Games later this term.

Rewards Trip 30th June 2017

This term we set our students the challenge of getting as few behaviour points as possible with the promise of an exciting rewards trip for everyone who managed 5 or fewer this half term. We have been overwhelmed by the response and can see a clear improvement in student attitudes and behaviours as a result. We have counted the points and are delighted that 400 out of 500 students are eligible to take part in our Thorpe Park visit on 30th June.

Letters have been sent home to invite students to participate and we have been able to subsidise the cost so that an experience that would normal cost £30 or more is available for £18.50. Support is available, as always, for students entitled to Pupil Premium funding.

Mr Walbank, Mr Hide, Mr Smith & Mr Conway

Heads of Years 7-10

Other Trips and Visits

Our staff have worked hard to make sure that we can offer a wide range of trips and visits next year. Some are comparatively low cost, while others are quite expensive due to the amazing experiences offered. Payment schemes and online payment facilities will be available for all trips and we are happy to speak with any family who would like to participate but might find it difficult financially. **Mrs Ojulah** should be your first port of call for a conversation.

Growing Project

Three students accompanied Mr Carter to Bedford Square on Friday 26th May to support Houghton Regis' 'Get Growing' event organised by the Town Council. Students represented the Academy and spent the afternoon creating a "bug hotel" with a variety of different materials suitable for an array of bugs and wildlife. Students had a great time during the event and Mr Carter was even seen getting his hands dirty! Student Voice look forward to supporting the town council with their next event - graffiti art!



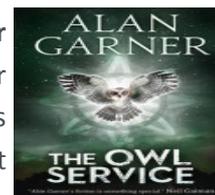
Love Reading

As the long summer days continue, what better time to get into a really book? Sometimes it is hard to know what to pick so here are a couple of suggestions.



Skellig by David Almond Exploring a ramshackle garage with his new-found friend, Mina, Michael discovers a strange, magical creature.

The Owl Service by Alan Garner When Alison finds a curious dinner service in the attic, the discovery sets off a strange chain of events that look set to effect everyone's lives.



Jo Goodchild

Lead Teacher for Learning to Learn