



**Da Vinci Academy**  
A L.E.A.D. Academy



**Interim Executive Headteacher:** Mrs Ann Donaghy

**Address:** St Andrew's View  
Derby DE21 4ET

**Telephone:** 01332 831515  
**www.davinciacademy.co.uk**  
**office@davinciacademy.co.uk**

Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to write to you to outline the arrangements for the end of the summer term, some changes to our procedures in the autumn and the details of our return in September.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your ongoing and unswerving support of the Academy and our young people over the course of the past year.

In September we will continue with our relentless focus on driving up standards and the quality of education in the Academy. Research shows that schools that have the highest standards and expectations of all students are those who achieve the very best results. With that in mind, and in order to continue on our rapidly improving journey, we will continue to focus on ensuring that all students meet our expectations, including being fully equipped and correctly dressed for school.

With that in mind, please find below details of the arrangements for the end of this term and for the start of the new term in September 2023.

**End of Term Arrangements:**

The Academy will close for the summer holidays on Friday 21st July at 12:30.

Students will be able to purchase lunch from the canteen up until 13:00 prior to their departure, should they wish.

**Derby's Summer 2023 Term Break - Financial Support**

Derby City Council is delighted to offer children and families financial support towards the cost of living for the Summer 2023 term break. A £90 food voucher code to help you with the cost of meals over the summer will be issued via email to all eligible families.

**Autumn Term Dates:**

Please find below the details of the return dates for each year group.

Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 & Year 11
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September	Years, 10, 9 & 8

Students must arrive punctually for school, and the amended timings of the Academy day for September 2023 are outlined below.



**The School Day:**

Following my letter to you earlier this term, please note that the school day in September will be slightly different. A reminder and outline of the school day can be found below. Please note that there is no Period 6 for Year 11 on a Thursday.

	Year 7,8 & 9	Year 10	Year 11
08:15	Breakfast Clubs (optional)		
08:30am	Morning Line Up		
08:40	DVA Reads	DVA Reads	DVA Reads
09:00	Lesson 1	Lesson 1	Lesson 1
09:55	Lesson 2	Lesson 2	Lesson 2
10:50	Break	Break	Break
11:10	Lesson 3	Lesson 3	Lesson 3
12:05	Lesson 4	Lunch	Lunch
12:40		Lesson 4	Lesson 4
13:05	Lunch		
13:40	PSHE (LIFE)	PSHE (LIFE)	PSHE (LIFE)
14:10	Lesson 5	Lesson 5	Lesson 5
15:05	End of compulsory lessons	End of compulsory lessons	Lesson 6 (Mo, Tu, Wed, Fri)
15:45			End of compulsory lessons

**Uniform:**

Detailed information regarding our Academy uniform can be found on the school website. For ease of information, please find an overview of the uniform expectations below. Please be reminded that students not wearing the correct uniform will be loaned the relevant item(s) in support.

- Blazer worn every day (can take off and put on the back of chair once in classroom).
- **Black shoes** and no trainers.
- **Black tailored trousers** - no leggings or jeans.
- A plain **black belt** is recommended but not compulsory.
- Jewellery may include two plain stud earrings and a watch – **no other piercings are allowed.**
- No false nails and no false eyelashes.
- Natural coloured hair only and no patterns or shaved heads.
- **School bag** with equipment
- **PE kit** of Da Vinci top, Da Vinci shorts and Da Vinci hoodie with plain **dark blue or black joggers.** Cycling shorts and leggings are not permitted.



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### **Mobile Phones**

We wish to inform all parents and carers that, from September 2023, mobile phones are banned on the Academy site for both students and visitors. This means that phones must be switched off and away before walking through the school gates. It is vital not only for safeguarding purposes, but also for the purpose of aiding the focus of students during the school day, that this rule is upheld at all times, and we thank you in advance for your support with this.

We recognise that parents may wish their child to have access to their phone whilst travelling to and from school. If this is the case, students are required to turn them off, and to have them in their bags throughout the school day. If a student does decide to bring a phone to school, this is done at their own risk, and unfortunately the Academy cannot take responsibility for damaged, broken or stolen phones.

**Please note that, if a phone is seen, used or goes off during the day, then it will be confiscated and kept safely locked away in the school office until the end of the day (you will be notified by text message).**

### **RSE In 2023-2024**

Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE) is a compulsory requirement in all schools. Da Vinci academy will continue to deliver this curriculum content in our 'Personal Development' lessons in Years 7, 8, 9 10 & 11, as well as through a number of assemblies throughout the year, through the content of a number of curriculum subjects, and through bespoke 'visit days'. This will ensure that students receive this essential information prior to leaving school in Year 11. The programme is designed to be both appropriate and age-differentiated to meet the needs of all our students. We will be adding more detailed information to our website including the updated RSE policy in September 2023. If you have any further questions about the programme, or queries about the content, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Wiles Assistant Headteacher leading Personal Development via email: [nat.wiles@davinciacademy.co.uk](mailto:nat.wiles@davinciacademy.co.uk) .

### **Farewells and New Arrivals:**

And lastly, of course, it is the time in the year when we sadly say goodbye to some staff. I know that you will join me in publicly thanking them for all that they have done for the Academy and our students.

This year we say a fond farewell to Mrs Howe, Mr New, Mrs Heltorp, Miss Getty and Mrs Belfield. We will miss them all and thank them for their hard work and dedication to the Academy. We wish them all every success in the future.

Although it is sad to be saying goodbye to some colleagues, I know that you will also join me in welcoming new faces to the Academy in the next academic year:

Miss Howard – Deputy Headteacher (Miss Howard joined us in the summer term of this academic year)

Mrs Culverwell – Deputy Headteacher

Mr Gregory – Assistant Headteacher

Mrs Atkinson – Teacher of French

Miss Bryan – Teacher of PE

Mr Kawcynski – Teacher of English

Miss Kennedy – Teacher of Mathematics

Miss James – Teacher of Science

Mrs Spanner – Teacher of PE

Miss Taylor – Teacher of Science

Miss Tilley – Teacher of Art, Design and Technology



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Thank you as always for your continued support of the Academy. Have a great summer and we look forward to welcoming students back in September.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A. Donaghy  
Interim Executive Headteacher