

Dear Year 9 Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to write to you with final details of the Transition Week 2009. The week will commence on Monday 20th July and is a compulsory week for all students.

The aim of the week is to welcome new students in to the Academy and focus upon some key elements that include the Academy's Specialisms; Design and Enterprise, strengthening the Q3 Ethos and exploring some curriculum enrichment for all. We hope that it will be an exciting week full of new experiences and opportunities. It will be a critical opportunity to reflect on the first year of Q3 Academy.

In order to help students prepare for the week, please refer to the following programme:

Monday 20th July

Year 9 students report to their allocated tutor room at 9.15am. Students will spend the day with their tutor exploring the Academy Ethos. We are delighted to welcome some visitors to the Academy for the day who will facilitate sessions designed to get students working together. Parents/carers can expect to hear of some amazing experiences during this day to include drumming, salsa dancing and tai chi possibly. Please provide a healthy packed lunch for students. Students eligible for free school meals will be provided with a packed lunch – please could parents/carers provide this information to the appropriate Company office. Thank you.

Tuesday 21st July

Year 9 students have been invited to attend an Alton Towers trip for the day. During the day the students will be expected to collect critical information for an Enterprise activity on Wednesday 21st July. They will also visit a workshop discussing Ride Design that will enhance further learning during the rest of the week. Coaches will leave promptly at 8am and will return by 5pm. Students must be at the Lecture Theatre for 8am promptly.

Tracksuits must be worn for the formal workshops but then students may change in to their own clothes if they wish to.

Students not attending this trip are required to report to Discovery to participate in the Design day being held in school.

Wednesday 22nd July

During the day students will participate in an Enterprise activity entitled 'White Knuckle Challenge'. We hope that they can use information from their Alton Towers trip to enhance the day. Students will report to various rooms in Communications for this activity. These will be shared with students prior to the day.

We have also been lucky enough to secure a motivational speaker called David Hyner who will deliver a session called 'Inside the Minds of Top Achievers'. We hope that this will inspire our youngsters to consider their future direction and drive.

Thursday 23rd July

All students to report to the Restaurant at 9.15am please.

The majority of Year 9 will be out during the day with Communications Company in Stratford Upon Avon. Please see the separate letter for explicit details of requirements for this trip. For those children remaining on site, they will participate in a workshop organised by Communications. They must report to Miss Tank's classroom.

Friday 24th July

On Friday 24th July, Year 9 students will participate in workshops led by Social Design. This will be a specific focus on RE. Students will be provided with a specific SD room to report to prior to the day. Discovery (Science) will lead a presentation on 'How to Save the Planet in 45 minutes'. We can't wait to hear how! This will take place after break in the Sports Hall.

The Lifestyle workshop is entitled 'Healthy Mind and Body' and we hope to give students the opportunity to choose an activity to participate in for the session. We have been lucky enough to secure some external sports coaches for this. We ask that students bring a spare t-shirt to change in to please. This session will begin after lunch and staff will meet students by the PE changing rooms.

Students will be expected to arrive at the Academy for a 9.15am start each day. During Transition Week, the Academy day will end at 3.05pm each day (with the exception of Tuesday for Alton Towers visitors). We ask that all students wear the Academy tracksuit for the week. In the event of needing a change of polo shirt, please would parents ensure that this is a plain white or navy blue one please. Packed lunches are required for Monday, Tuesday (Alton Towers) and Thursday please. Hot meals will cease in our restaurant during Transition Week but sandwiches may be purchased.

During the week, we anticipate that we will generate some media interest. If you would prefer that your child is not filmed or photographed, please make this explicitly clear to the appropriate Company office again. Thank you.

How can you help further?

- Please ensure that you child arrives on time each day during Transition Week.
- Let Companies know if your child will be absent for any reason during the week.
- Talk about your child's experiences throughout the week. They will certainly be very varied and perhaps a little alternative!

Please do not hesitate to contact me further if you have any questions. For a direct response, alternatively please contact the appropriate Company Administrator who will forward any concerns or questions to the appropriate Personalised Learning Director or Strategic Director.

I hope that you and your children are looking forward to Transition Week as much as we are!

Yours sincerely

S. Mellors
Transition Co-ordinator