

15 July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our Academy. It has been an exceptional year and we are incredibly proud of all of our students.

Highlights from this year include the whole school production of High School Musical, academic and pastoral rewards, our many sporting successes including District Athletics champions, Cultural Day, the extensive range of trips including Euro Disney, the football tour of Milan, the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, London, the Copper Box Arena, the Belgian Battlefields, and many more. Additionally, we are proud of the focus and dedication of the Year 11 students to their GCSE examination studies, their Year 11 Graduation and Prom and the fact that our students have done incredibly well academically across every year group.

As I enter my tenth year as the Head of The Gateway Academy, I am delighted that the Academy continues to flourish, with student academic progress, student attendance, staff retention, and attendance all above the national average. Despite the major recruitment issues facing schools across the country, we have a 95% teacher retention rate this academic year and we are fully staffed for the upcoming academic year. We will continue to do all that we can to ensure that your child is empowered to reach their full potential across all aspects of Academy life.

Important information coming up includes:

- **End of Term Arrangements:** Friday 19 July 2024, will be the final day of the academic year 2024/2024. On this day, 9 and 10 will finish at 12:20 and Years 7 and 8 at 12:30.
- **The Autumn Term begins on Wednesday 04 September 2024** with Year 7 students expected to be on site by 8.12 am for an 8.15 am start and Years 8 – 11 expected to be on site by no later than 11.12 am for an 11.15 am start.
- **Assessment Calendar for next academic year:** can be found here - [Assessments](#)
- **GCSE dates:** The GCSE examination period will begin on the Tuesday 06 May and finish on Thursday 9 June 2025. Year 11 Graduation will be on Friday 20 June 2025 @ 12.00 noon, with the prom date provisionally set for Thursday 26 June 2025.
- **Parents Evening:** timings are 1600–1900 (except where stated) and dates are as follows:
 - Year 7- 12 December 2024
 - Year 8 – 27 March 2025
 - Year 9 – 24 April 2025
 - Year 10 – 16 January 2025
 - Year 11 – 21 November 2024 and 06 March 2025

Uniform: Please be aware that there has been a small number of changes to the uniform policy. Academy skirts are expected to be worn below the knee if a student decides to wear one. For full details of our uniform expectations, please refer to the reverse of this letter.

Please note that all letters, Academy Policies, trips, the parental calendar for the academic year 2024-2025, student revision timetables and a lot more information can be found on the Academy's website <http://www.theglc-gatewayAcademy.org.uk>.

Finally, I want to wish you and your family a fantastic break this summer. I look forward to us continuing to work together next academic year and supporting our young people to develop as active and thriving citizens within a diverse, truly fair and equal community.

Yours sincerely



Ms G McLaughlin
HEAD OF SCHOOL

UNIFORM

Unless otherwise directed, all young people should attend school with uniform selected from the prescribed list as follows:

- Black blazer with The Gateway Academy badge;
- White collared shirt;
- Gateway Academy tie;
- Black trousers – business style trousers, full length only [no denim, corduroy, brushed cotton, stretch material, chinos or jean style];
- Black Gateway Academy skirt, purchased directly from the Gateway Academy [must be worn below the knee];
- Plain black/neutral tights;
- Black, navy or white socks;
- Black Gateway academy V-necked jumper purchased directly from the Gateway Academy;
- Gateway Academy bag (Years 7 – 10);
- Gateway Academy journal.



Additional requirements

- Sweatshirts, non-religious headwear or over-coats are not permitted to be worn within the Academy's building. If seen, they will be confiscated until the end of the day. If they are not claimed within a term, they will be donated to charity;
- Students are not allowed to wear hoodies or caps on the Academy's premises. If seen, they will be confiscated until the end of the day. If they are not claimed within a term, they will be donated to charity;
- For health and safety reasons, nails should be of a suitable length.
- Make-up, if worn, should be of a natural tone.

Jewellery

It is preferable that no jewellery is worn for safety and security reasons. However, a wristwatch, small objects of religious significance and a small sleeper/stud in each lobe of the ear would be the maximum allowed. No facial piercing is allowed at the Academy. We ask the students to either remove jewellery when participating in sport, or cover items with a plaster, to prevent them from causing injury.



OUR GLC CORE VALUES

The GLC's mission is to develop active and thriving citizens within a diverse, truly fair and equal community.

Responsibility

We own our behaviour and actions. We recognise that we play a fundamental role in shaping our lives, the lives of others and every aspect of the world. We understand the importance of 'making the weather.'



Resilience

We tackle challenges head-on. We approach people and situations with confidence and a positive mindset. We learn from our setbacks and failures.



Compassion

We care for ourselves and each other. We contribute to making the world a better place. We treat others with kindness, respect and dignity.



Aspiration

We aim high and work hard to fulfil our potential. We believe everybody can achieve something great and realise the importance of 'improving upon our best.'



Learning is prized



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We were not born
to be average.

We were born
to be exceptional.

We are
The Gateway Academy.

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