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in nottingham-university-samworth-academy-1

Head Teacher Carl Elder



Friday 05th September 2025

Dear Parent/Carers,

Reflections from this week

It has been wonderful to greet all of students into school this week to make the best possible start to the 2025/26 academic year.

Whilst maintaining our focus on overall standards we are making the idea of being "present" a priority for the school. By this, we mean being both physically present in the building and then also being mentally present in the moment.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for students to attend school as much as possible. National data, and our own school data, shows that students who attend school more, are considerably more likely to achieve success. Thank you to all parents and carers that support their children and the school by making sure their children attend school every day. We are always willing to support families in boosting the attendenace of their children.

I would like to thank all parents and carers that have supported us over the summer by ensuring that their children have the correct uniform and are smartly turned-out to make a good impression and to represent the school with pride. At the start of the week, we spoke to all students to remind them of the expectations and also their opportunities for freedom and self-expression with regards to uniform. We will continue to remind students and uphold our high standards throughout the year. Please be reassured that, as we told students in assembly, we will always support students who present with uniform challenges by loaning the items they need for the day. Also, if students respectfully engage in the conversation when challenged about uniform, and fix the issue straight away, there will be no need for any sanctions.

We did confirm with students that they can wear jewllery such as chains, necklaces or bracelets so long as they are worn discreetly beneath their shirt and sleaves. Please note that we, as a school, cannot take responsibility for any such valuable items and that these are brought into school 'at your own risk'.

I also reminded our students about our "Work Hard, Be Kind" motto. We will be explaining more about how students can live this out during the rest of this half term. We strongly believe that working hard and being kind will enable all of our school community to get the best outo of our shared experiences together in the academy.

The Week Ahead:

As well as being present in the building, we expect students to be in the right place, at the right time throughout the day. We have reminded the students about the importance of being punctual to their lessons. Now that students have had this week to find their way and know their classrooms, we will be introducing our sanctions for being late to lesson next week.

By the end of next week, students and staff will have completed a full cycle of their two-week timetable. They will be well underway with their learning. We hope that everone will have settled well. However, if you do have anything that you would like to raise with the school, please do, in the first instance, make contact with the Form Tutor for your child. Typically, they see your children every day and deliver their Personal Development lessons so will often know your child better than anyone. They will also know who to pass the matter on to if they feel it is best to be dealt by someone with further, additional knowledge or responsibility





in the school. During the school day, we do prioritise being present for our students. So, please be patient when awaiting a response.

We look forward to working with you in the best interests of your children throughout 2025/26.

Coming Up

Flu Vaccination 2025

If you would like your child to receive the flu vaccine in school this year, please follow this link to complete the online consent form. If you wish to decline, please use the same link to complete the 'No Consent' form.

https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/c3233f0e

The vaccinations will take place at your child's school on the 12/11/2025. The link will close on the 29/10/2025. If your child has already had the Flu vaccine elsewhere since Sept 2025, please disregard this message. If you have any problems accessing the link, please telephone 0333 3583 397 option 4, option 2.

Important Notice from Nottingham City Council

LET'S KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Very sadly, over the last school year, three children were injured after being knocked over by cars outside Nottingham schools. So, as the new term begins, we're asking for your co-operation to keep the roads outside school calm and safe for everyone.

We're asking all parents or carers who drive children to school, can you...

BE TIMELY – Can you try to get to school in good time, so that you can park away from the school, especially the zig-zag lines, and walk your child/children up to the school gates? This will mean better visibility and a safer environment for everyone.

BE CONSIDERATE – Please can you park considerately; not blocking the pavements or resident's driveways and turning off your vehicle's engine whilst waiting, to reduce pollution?

BE PATIENT – Can you please drive carefully and be patient whilst driving away from the school? We appreciate everyone has busy lives, however this has been the main cause of previous accidents.

As we go into the new school term, let's do all we can to keep our children safe. Thank you.

With Gratitude, Carl Elder Headteacher