



Headteacher Bulletin

15th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers and Students of Our Arena,

The positive start continues, and I am delighted to report that our attendance figure this week was over 95% with our behaviour positive to negative ratio in classes at 97% (positive) to 3% (negative). We will be aiming not only to maintain this throughout the year, but also improve it.

Open Week/Evening for Year 6 students

Having only just welcomed our new Year 7 students, we now look forward to welcoming our Year 6 Parents/Students. 16th September is Open Week for Year 6 students, with our **Open Evening on Thursday 19th September, 6:00-8:00pm**. This year we had over 526 (of which 260 were first choice) parents who put Arena Academy as their choice, but unfortunately, we only have places for 180 students. The open week tours and evening is an opportunity for parents/students to see how the school operates on a normal school day and ask any questions they may have. To book a tour, please visit our website: [Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://corearena.academy)

Presentation of work in exercise books

At Arena we encourage all students to take pride in their work and complete all the work set, this includes ensuring books are neat and well presented. They will be checked on a regular basis to ensure that they are meeting our expected standards. **All learning journeys should be stuck in the front or back of every book.** Please see the attached poster regarding our exercise book expectations.

Year 7 settling in evening

The 'Settling In Evening' is scheduled for Thursday September 26th, from 4:00 to 6:30pm. The purpose of this evening is detailed below. Please see attached poster for more information.

- To provide feedback to Year 7 parents regarding how your child has adapted to secondary school life since September 2024.
- To give parents an opportunity to pose questions and exchange information about their child's progress and learning.
- To pass on any concerns you may have to the Form Tutor, SENDCo, Head of Year or Year Coordinator.

Attendance and Punctuality – Everyone's responsibility

Can I remind Parents/Carers to please check the NHS [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk) website before deciding to keep children at home if they are ill. In addition, we encourage all students to attend school punctually at 8:35am. A reminder of our punctuality procedures are as follows:

- **8:25am** – Arena Central doors open and students are welcome to go to the canteen for a free breakfast.
- **8:35am** - students should be sat in form rooms, and at this point the main student doors are closed.
- **8:35 - 9:00am** - students arriving at this time are late and must enter via the Hub doors and will be marked L, and given a 60-minute, same day, Reflection (unless there are genuine mitigating circumstances).
- **9:00am onwards** - students arriving after 9:00am should enter through reception and sign in using the InVentry system. They will be met by a member of staff who will ring home to find out the reason why the student late. **They will be marked as a U, and it counts as an unauthorised**

absence on their attendance record. Under the new penalty notices that have been introduced, **students with 10 U codes over a 10-week period will qualify for a penalty notice.**

Year 11 'Going for Gold' session - Tuesday 17th September 6:00pm

An online session will take place on Tuesday for all parents and students of Year 11. This event will provide valuable information for all year 11 Parents on how you can assist your child in preparing for their exams. Please see attached poster for more information.

Year 11 preparation for GCSE Examinations

Throughout the year, students will receive guidance on how to study and revise, but a good starting point, if they have not already done so, is to have them log into GCSE Pod and engage in daily, focused revision sessions. **All year 11 students should be completing a minimum of 2 hours of revision a day.** Here's a link to our Year 11 webpage containing essential information about revision and examinations: [Year 11 Examinations - Arena Academy \(corearena.academy\)](https://www.corearena.academy)

Lunch service

A reminder to all students, we have four serving stations at Our Arena:

- Two in the canteen
- Pasta bar - In the English area
- Food pod - In the playground

On Friday's, the canteen is always very busy as we serve chicken wings which are very popular! From next week, chicken wings will also be served from the pasta bar and food pod. This will reduce the queue times in the canteen.

Compos – free physics online tuition for year 10 and 11 students

Throughout the academic year we receive information about online resources which may be useful to our students, and these will be passed on to you. One we would recommend is 'Compos' - which will develop knowledge and skills in physics. [Home | COMPOS \(ox.ac.uk\)](https://www.compos.ox.ac.uk)

Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Mr Mann