

13 July 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Plan for end of year July 2026 & start of September 2026

As the summer term draws to a close, we reflect with immense pride on an inspiring and successful year at the Academy. Our students have once again exceeded expectations, showcasing exceptional dedication whether in the classroom, on the stage, or on the sports field. This was beautifully validated during our recent Ofsted visit, where inspectors were thoroughly impressed by the Academy. They saw firsthand the wonderful children who make up our school community and celebrated the remarkable successes they achieve every day. Whether competing at the highest levels nationwide or reaching personal milestones, our students' accomplishments are a true testament to their resilience and hard work. This ongoing success is only possible thanks to your unwavering support. Moving forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to maintaining the high standards of conduct and behavior that define our Academy's identity, ensuring every child is empowered to reach their full potential.

A few good news stories or key events that I feel are worth revisiting and am pleased to share with you include:

- Student workshops have been a regular calendar item once again this year for all year groups with focuses on Personal Development in relation to various PSHE topics, STEM activities and Careers. Some of these workshops have not only enlightened our students to the real world as they grow as young people, but they have also allowed them an opportunity to have hands-on experiences in fields such as nursing, childcare, engineering, STEM and education that are sure to help shape some exciting future pathways for our students.
- Our Academy Sports leaders have also hosted several local primary school sports events including athletics, netball and archery tournaments. This is on top of some excellent academy sporting achievements throughout the year in football.
- In Post 16, all Year 12 students have successfully completed their two-week work experience placements earlier this term. Employers across the board praised the students for their confidence, professionalism, and ability to build strong relationships with both colleagues and young people. Several students impressed their placements so much that they've been invited back. These hands-on experiences have again helped many students solidify their future ambitions. For some, the spark of inspiration has turned into a clear career path — with plans now forming around university degrees and future roles in education, healthcare, and beyond.
- Our Year 12 students also enjoyed an exciting and insightful *Into Uni* trip to Warwick University last week, where they spent the day discovering what life as a university student is really like. The visit offered a valuable chance to explore the wide range of courses available and to experience the atmosphere of a vibrant, modern campus. Seeing the facilities up close helped students understand how learning, living and social life all come together in a university setting. The trip was a fantastic opportunity for students to broaden their horizons, ask questions and begin shaping their future pathways.
- Finally, our Summer School programme will be running again this year on 23 & 24 July for our new Year 7 cohort. We look forward to showing the students what life at secondary school will be like and have a large variety of exciting activities for them to experience.

Our well rounded and reputable Careers provision, has again been available right from year 7 through to our Post 16 students. This year, we've been able to offer students as young as year 7, a chance to visit a local university to see what life would be like for them, should they choose this pathway. While older students have

also experienced meaningful encounters with employers through career workshops, mock interviews and mentoring sessions throughout this year. Some of our Year 9 students attended a Women in Engineering day at BCU to explore different career pathways available in this industry, while Y10 students have all completed a CV workshop with our business partner, the IM Group, as well as learning about the core employability skills. Our STEM focus continues to be a priority with various workshops being offered to different groups of students in various formats.

Our [termly newsletters](#) will allow you a chance to see more of what this year has included for our students. A few housekeeping related key points to note as we approach the summer break:

- Results Days will be in person with A Level Results Day being on **Thursday 13 August** and GCSE Results Day on **Thursday 20 August**. Further details for these days will also be sent in separate letters and noted in the relevant year group section of the parent/carer letters on [the academy website](#).
- As we move towards the summer, can you please speak to your child about the need for vigilance and the need to be aware of their surroundings. Please also remind them about being safe on the roads during this time. Your child's [online activity](#) is also something to continue checking, ensuring that what they are accessing is suitable and age appropriate. Further guidance can be found on our '[parents space](#)' page & in our [online parent's guide](#).
- We pride ourselves on the high standards of uniform at the academy, [our policy](#) is very clear and can be found online. For clarity no trainers (Nike air force/Converse) are allowed, nor are hoodies and just as a reminder blazers are required for the September start.
- Our Ethos Team will be setting up a uniform collection point from the week commencing 13 July for parents who would like to donate any uniform that their children have outgrown and is still in good condition.
- As it has been this year, attendance is a priority for our students. Consistent attendance is vital for students' academic progress, social development, and overall success at school. Every day of learning counts, and missing even a few days can have a significant impact on attainment. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly and arrives on time each day. All students have an attendance target of **at least 98%**, so let's work together to maintain strong attendance habits and to prepare for the new academic year in September.
- The **Free School Meals criteria is changing** and these changes come into force from September 2026. Therefore, we urge all parents/carers to review the new rules and check their eligibility again. Full details of the changes and how to check your entitlement can be found [in this letter from Solihull Council](#) which is on our website.
- Key dates for the start of the new academic year are set out below:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Plan for the day</u>
Tuesday 1 September	INSET Day 1: STAFF ONLY ON SITE
Wednesday 2 September	Years 7 only to attend from 8.20 am Years 12 only to attend from 9.00 am
Thursday 3 September	Year 7 only to attend from 8.20 am Years 8, 9, 12 & 13 to attend from 10.45 am Years 10 & 11 to attend from 12.05 am
Friday 4 September	All year groups to attend from 8.20 am as normal

All other term dates and inset days for the 2026-2025 academic year can be found on the [academy website](#).

The last week of this academic year, w/c 20 July, will run as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Plan for the day</u>
Monday 20 July	Academy timings will be as normal for the below: • Drayton Manor Rewards Trip for years 7 and 8. Students attending this trip are to wear their own clothes for the day and should arrive by 8.40 am. • Sports Day for years 9 and 10. All students are to wear their Grace Academy PE kit to the academy for the day. Any year 7 & 8 students not attending the Drayton Manor Rewards Trip will be expected to wear their full academy uniform. Due to the current weather, students going to Drayton Manor and taking part in the Sports Day activities should bring sun cream and a bottle of water with them.
Tuesday 21 July	Academy timings will be as normal for the below: • Alton Towers Rewards Trip for years 9, 10 and 12. Students attending this trip are to wear their own clothes for the day and should arrive by 7.45 am. • Sports Day for years 7 and 8. All students are to wear their Grace Academy PE kit to the academy for the day. Any year 9 & 10 students not attending the Alton Towers Rewards Trip will be expected to wear their full academy uniform. Due to the current weather, students going to Alton Towers and taking part in the Sports Day activities should bring sun cream and a bottle of water with them.
Wednesday 22 July	This will be a normal academy day, therefore full normal academy uniform is to be worn by all year groups. At 12.10 pm students will be dismissed from the academy site to start their summer break.

As we wrap up another successful year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable summer. Reflecting on this past term, I want to extend a sincere thank you for your support during the numerous hot spells we experienced. I know how tricky navigating these disruptions can be as a parent, and your cooperation and adaptability were greatly appreciated. This year has truly reinforced just how passionate and proud I am of our Academy community. With one chapter closing and another about to begin, I look forward to next year with great anticipation, eager to continue showcasing to the outside world just how exceptional our students are. None of what we achieve would be possible without your continued partnership and trust. Please be assured that every decision we make remains firmly rooted in our commitment to improving the life chances of the young people in our care.

Wishing you a fantastic summer break.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Godwin
Principal - For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust