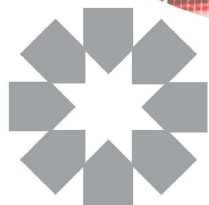




The Axholme
Academy

Aspire and Achieve



A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

A LETTER OF WELCOME

Dear students, parents, carers and guardians.

We are absolutely delighted that you have chosen The Axholme Academy to continue your educational journey. We have all been going through a very challenging time recently and we will be doing everything we can to reassure you and help you make the transition to secondary school as smooth as it can be.

Our Academy community provides a safe environment in which students are academically successful and nourished so that they become well-educated young people with strong values. You can continue to be absolutely assured that all of our staff will do whatever it takes to help all of our students make the maximum personal, academic and social progress possible during their 5 years with us. We encourage all students to get involved in the wide range of extra-curricular activities that are offered to further enrich their development.

It is also very important to have a positive working relationship with parents and carers throughout the 5 Year journey and we are really looking forward to working closely with you. We have high expectations for students in terms of conduct, commitment to study and all aspects of Academy life and we know that parents and carers will support us in maintaining the highest of standards.

We look forward to working together with you all.

D.Keogh
Principal

FORWARD:

This booklet has been put together to serve, we hope, as a user-friendly guide to some of the issues, which face parents and students when they move up to secondary school.

In these uncertain times, this booklet best reflects our intentions for induction. We hope to exceed our expectations and will keep you updated along with way

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SO WHAT IS DIFFERENT ABOUT SECONDARY SCHOOL?

You often have to travel further, sometimes on a school bus.

You may have to wear full school uniform for the first time and have a new set of expectations to remember.

Instead of one teacher, you will be taught by many different teachers and get to know a whole range of adults in different roles around the school.

The site will be much bigger and you will have to move around from classroom to classroom between lessons, carrying your belongings.

You are responsible for your own equipment, making sure you have the correct books with you, remembering your dinner card, bus pass and your PE kit.

You will need to download the Google Calendar and SIMs App. You will use these to organise your independent Learning Tasks in order to complete them and hand them in on the correct day.

There may be new lessons and new variations on familiar subjects.

Teaching and learning styles may be different from Primary School; you may be expected to research as part of your work.

Break-time and lunchtime will be different, with less adult supervision.

You are expected to be more independent. There will not always be someone there telling you what to do next, you are growing up and need to choose the right decisions for yourself.

In the first three years students follow the KS3 National Curriculum. During this time your child will study “core subjects”: English / **Literacy** , Maths and Science, together with foundation subjects: French, Geography, History, Technology, Music, Art, Physical Education, Religious Education, Information and Communication Technology and Complementary Studies (CS) and Study Skills.

Students will be organised into mixed ability form groups. They will be taught in some groups that have been set in accordance with their ability and in other lessons they will be taught in mixed ability groupings.

SUBJECTS AND NUMBER OF LESSONS ALLOCATED OVER A TWO WEEK PERIOD:

English	7
Literacy and Languages	6
Maths	7
Science	7
Technology	5
Geography	3
History	3
P.E	4
R.E	2
Music	2
Art	2
C.S	2
Study Skills	1

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM:

Students are assessed regularly by the marking of books, questioning, end of unit tests, self-assessment, peer assessment, via independent learning tasks, and through internal and external exams. Together with the results of Key Stage 2 tests this gives us a wealth of information on student potential and progress. We will quickly be able to tell if a student is working below their potential and together we will want to tackle that situation immediately.

At the beginning of the year, Key Stage 3 students are given an end of year 11 target grade to aim for in each subject. At the end of each term, students are assessed as to whether they are working 'Beyond' (B) their target grade, whether they've 'Got' (G) their target grade, whether they are 'Almost' (A) at their target grade or whether they are 'Reaching' (R) for their target grade. Targets are recorded in progress tracking grids kept in their exercise books. Each term, students receive written feedback about their achievements and areas for development. During lessons, students are encouraged to use this feedback to set their own targets for improvement and plan what they will do during lessons to achieve them. During lessons, teachers use a range of techniques to assess students' ability to make sure they do well. Some of these techniques are recorded in books (marking tests, self assessment, peer assessment) and others are not recorded, such as questioning.

REPORTS:

During the academic year, behaviour for learning grades are sent home each half term. Along with these progress data in the form of working at grades are set home each term. Written reports are completed annually in the Summer term and are written by the students' tutor teachers. All reporting is sent to parents via the Sims App. During the year parents will also have the opportunity to speak to subject teachers both at the Settling in Evening in the Autumn term and at the Parents evening in the Summer term.

BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING GRADES:

We believe that an effective system for tracking students' performance and rewarding excellence must be equitable, transparent and applied consistently. In order to achieve this, we have developed an 'behaviour for learning grade' measure which recognises whether students are behaving in an appropriate way that allows learning to occur. The students themselves are involved in the awarded of these grades and have a conversation around their behaviour for learning with members of staff. We have developed a set of criteria that outlines the characteristics of students performing at each grade. These criteria are used to assign a behaviour for learning grade for all subjects. Each student can achieve a 'Beyond' (B), a 'Got it' (G), an 'Almost' (A) for a 'Reaching' (R) for each of their subjects.

REWARDS FRAMEWORK:

StARs are awarded to students in recognition of their work produced, effort given, attendance achieved and positive behaviour. These are logged by staff members via SIMs and will appear on the SIMs Parent and Student Apps. Different levels of certificate are attached to different numbers of stars accrued and are presented throughout the year along with varying levels of prizes.

KNOWLEDGE TESTS:

Year 7 will have a Knowledge Test each week during form time. At the beginning of Year 7 students will receive a Book of Knowledge—this will be available electronically. Each week students will be set an ILT (Independent Learning Task) according to the schedule in their planner and then tested during form time. Results will then be recorded. The aim of the Knowledge Test is to build on the good practice formed in Year 6, to encourage students to take responsibility for their own learning, provide students with the opportunity to develop key subject knowledge outside of lesson time, whilst building a structured ILT activity which parents can support.

ATTENDANCE:

Reference to attendance will be included in reports, both authorised and unauthorised. If a student is absent a parent / carer is requested to contact the school as early as possible on the first day of absence. The school has a twenty-four hour answering service so messages can be left at any time.

We discourage parents from taking their child/children on holiday during term time as this has a negative impact on their learning. Holidays will only be authorised in very exceptional circumstances.

It is important that students are in school by 8.30am prompt as lateness disrupts lessons and most importantly learning. Late marks remain part of your child's permanent record. We operate a break time form filling in activity for students who are late after 8.30am (followed up by a Friday after school detention if they fail to attend at break time).

INDEPENDENT LEARNING TASKS:

To support the development of our students into independent learners, independent learning tasks will be set for students in each of the following subjects: English; mathematics; science; modern foreign languages; geography and history. Independent learning tasks are tasks which are set by teachers for students to complete outside of timetabled lessons. Independent learning tasks are usually set in each of these subjects once a week but it is recognised that we need to be flexible – there are times, particularly in the lead up to examinations, that subjects may set more tasks and there may also be occasions when it is not necessary for an independent learning task to be completed. Independent learning tasks will sometimes be set by other subjects when appropriate.

Independent learning tasks can be written tasks or they may involve online activities, reading, researching, revising or practising speaking activities. The tasks may help students to: prepare for future learning; practise learning which has already taken place; extend learning beyond that which has already taken place or combine learning (this is likely to be an extended task which brings together learning which has taken place over a period of time).

Independent learning tasks will be given a reasonable deadline. Students are responsible for organising their time and ensuring that all tasks are completed on time. All Independent Learning Tasks will appear on both SIMs Parent and Student Apps so students must ensure that they complete tasks set. If they require further support with these tasks it is their responsibility to seek it out so that they complete tasks on time and to the best of their ability. In school they may see their teacher for guidance or access the internet using the academy's ICT facilities at break at lunchtime.

As a parent/carer you can support your child by:

- ensuring that they have the necessary equipment.
- asking them what independent learning tasks they have and when they are due.
- encouraging them to complete their independent learning tasks in a suitable environment.
- showing an interest in their independent learning tasks when they are working on them.
- signing their planner each week and informing the academy if there are any problems

HELPING YOUR CHILD:

- Help your child get the best out of school. If they appear to be low and don't want to go to school, try and find out why and contact the school with your worries.
- As your child grows they will become more independent. This is good but remember that you are the parents and sometimes need to make decisions for them because you will know best.
- Some children like to have other trusted adults they can talk to, a grand parent, an aunt or uncle, a teacher or a family friend. Don't feel threatened if they reach out to someone else.
- Some children can be really demanding and irritable. Even if they are driving you mad, be patient and say that you know they are worried or unhappy. Under all their moodiness there may lie lots of hidden anxiety and unhappiness.
- Conflict at home may cause a child anxiety. Talk them through what is happening and listen to how they feel. That way you will keep their trust and help them deal with any change.
- Encourage your child to read at home. The more children read, the more their reading abilities will improve.

SOME EFFECTIVE PARENTAL PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES INCLUDE:

- Ensure that your child attends school regularly, show an interest in what they are learning and tell them that education is important. Believing in the value of hard work, the need for personal responsibility and the importance of education all contribute to greater successes at school.
- Take your child to new and different places, such as museums, historical sites and nature centres. Talk about what you have seen.
- Be a role model for your child. Children imitate what they see their parents and other adults in the family doing. If you read, your child will want to read.
- Monitor how your child spends their time outside school. Limit video games, television, and internet use. Encourage hobbies and other worthwhile activities that provide learning opportunities.

LEARNING SUPPORT:

If your child is having difficulty in lessons or finding the work very easy the school endeavours to provide support. If you feel that your child needs help please contact our SENDCo, Miss Harrison.

jharrison@theaxholmeacademy.com

TOP 10 WORRIES

ABOUT STARTING SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Getting lost
- Homework
- Being bullied
- Not being able to do the work
- Not getting on with teachers
- Getting into trouble (detentions / reports / lateness)
- Older students in the school
- Not knowing what to do if there is a problem
- Not making friends
- Getting to school and back (especially on the bus)

If your child has these worries then please reassure them. We have been working hard to help the transfer from Primary School to The Axholme Academy be as smooth as possible. During visits to primary schools, we have been addressing any issues that have arisen. We understand that these worries will probably be magnified by the current situation but we will work hard to support your child in ensuring they have a smooth transition into secondary school life.

WHAT TO DO IF

Your child is ill and is unable to come to school:

- Telephone the school and leave a message with the reception staff or via the answer phone.

You have any concerns regarding your child:

- The Pastoral Team should be the first point of contact.
- For any serious, 'delicate' matters you may wish to speak to the Head of Year 7—Miss Leigh

Your child needs to bring in medication:

- Medicines must be given to the office staff with instructions on their administration. Children must not have medication with them unless it is an inhaler.
- Medicines should be delivered in a secure and clearly labelled container.

Your child has forgotten something:

- You can bring the item to school and leave it at the front office, where it can be collected by the child. Please label it clearly with the child's name and form group.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

- Black blazer embroidered with Academy logo on pocket
- White blouse / shirt, with collar (long or short sleeved)
- Clip on Academy tie
- Black formal school trousers or knee length black skirt
- Plain, strong, sensible black shoes (no high heels, ballet pump / dolly style)
- Black or white socks / black or nude plain tights

The above uniform is available from a supplier called Uniform Direct:

www.uniform-direct.com Orders will be available direct from the supplier.

Clear examples of school uniform are outlined on The Axholme Academy website

PE / GAMES KIT

- Black and white sports polo shirt embroidered with Academy logo
- Black shorts embroidered with Academy logo
- Quarter zip long sleeved top embroidered with Academy logo
- Plain black sports socks
- Trainers, hockey / football boots and shin pads
- Optional Outdoor Items: Black raincoat embroidered with Academy logo and plain black under armour top and bottoms (all available from our supplier)
- It is advised to carry PE in a separate bag.
- All articles must be named and jewellery removed for any PE activity

The PE kit is available from a different supplier called Design Box via their website <https://designboxuk.com/>

TECHNOLOGY – FOOD

Plain Navy Apron (can be purchased as part of a pack from the Technology department when students start at the Academy)

MATHS

- Scientific Calculator: we recommend a Casio fx83 GTX (can be purchased from most supermarkets for approximately £10 with promotions often running in the Summer holidays)
- Protractor
- Compasses

JEWELLERY

- One pair of gold / silver earrings only in ear lobes, one in each.
- Digital , analogue or smart watch (smart watches can be worn but not to interact with mobile devices in school)

MAKE-UP

Not allowed in school, including nail varnish.

HAIR

No extreme styles or colours. **Please contact the school beforehand if you are in any doubt as to whether a particular hairstyle is deemed extreme or hair colour is deemed unnatural.**

PEER MENTORS

Due to the circumstances we found ourselves in during the Summer term, we were unable to select and train Peer Mentors, unfortunately, however we hope to have some in place ready for your child starting in September

School meals at The Axholme Academy are excellent. Students may select from a cafeteria system, a hot lunch of the traditional variety or a pizza / pasta bar. There is also a range of salads, Shaker pots and sandwiches available. There is also a range of hot and cold puddings. Students may choose to bring a packed lunch from home and eat it in the diner.

All students must remain on site throughout lunchtime.

The diner is also open at morning break time for students to purchase a range of snacks.

The diner operates a cashless system whereby all students are issued a card. If the lunch card is lost or damaged, there will be a charge of £3.00 for a replacement. By using the machine located near the cloakrooms, students can top up their cards daily or weekly; you may also wish to pay by cheque or by using your debit card on the Internet via Parent Pay. A maximum of £4.00 is set as a daily limit for all students to spend.

Parents may claim free meals if their financial circumstances justify. An application form can be obtained from North Lincolnshire Council by writing to:

Hewson House,
Station Road,
Brigg,
North Lincolnshire.
DN20 8XJ

Pupil Premium

Secondary schools receive an additional sum of money, called the Pupil Premium, for students eligible for free school meals. This money is used to help support the learning and progress of these students. We strongly encourage all eligible households to apply for free school meals enabling us to access this additional funding.

The bus routes 221 and 222 are registered as public service routes. This means that they transport fare-paying passengers as well as school students with bus passes. Parents will be asked to complete an application form to apply for a bus pass, which will incorporate a photograph of their child.

This will mean that if your child does not show their photo-pass to the driver when they board the bus, they will have to pay to travel. They will therefore need to take care of their pass, which will be issued for the entire time they are at the school, and will not be replaced annually. The council will be issuing a fares-table for the bus route that will show the cost for each journey. Registering buses as public service routes will also mean that students who wish to travel home with a friend or who are not eligible for free transport will be able to use the bus and pay the fare.

The 'No pass, No Travel' scheme has been introduced at other secondary schools in North Lincolnshire. They have had the benefit of:

- ensuring students use the bus they have been allocated a seat on.
- making it easier for the council, the school and bus contractor to suspend students who have behaved badly from school transport.
- establishing a culture where students must carry and show their passes when boarding the school bus.
- reinforcing students' responsibility to take care of their pass.

BUS ROUTES & TIMES

TIMINGS CORRECT 2019/2020—we will update you of any changes

FROM: KEADBY / ALTHORPE

BUS 222: PICK UP POINTS AND TIMES

KEADBY

Working Men's Club (Station Road) 8.07am

Station Road (Keadby Primary School) 8.08am

ALTHORPE

Main Street (Outside Church) 8.12am

Main Street (Opposite Vermuyden Court) 8.14am

FROM: KEADBY/AMCOTTS/GARTHORPE / LUDDINGTON / EASTOFT

BUS 221: PICK UP POINTS AND TIMES

KEADBY

Working Men's Club (Station Road) 7.35am

Trentside (Willow Grove) 7.40am

AMCOTTS

Church Street (Ingleby Arms) 7.46am

GARTHORPE

High Street (Bay Horse) 7.58am

High St/Margrave Lane (Bus stop) 8.00am

LUDDINGTON

Mill Close Villas (Garthorpe Road) 8.05am

Lincolnshire Arms (Eastoft Road) 8.07am

EASTOFT

River Don Hotel 8.13am

The school runs a two week timetable, with five one-hour lessons, with the capacity for a sixth lesson at the end of the school day.

THE SCHOOL DAY:

- 8.25 am** Students enter school.
- 8.30 am** Lesson 1
- 9:30 am** Lesson 2
- 10:30 am** BREAK
- 10.45 am** Lesson 3
- 11:45 am** Lesson 4
- 12:45 am** LUNCHTIME
- 1:35 pm** Form/Assembly
- 2:00 pm** Lesson 5
- 3:00 pm** End of school/ Lesson 6

SESSION TIMES

YEAR 7 SETTLING-IN EVENING:

In the Autumn term, there will be an evening to discuss how well your child is settling in to their new school.

The Axholme Academy

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Crowle

North Lincolnshire

DN17 4HU

Tel: 01724 710368

Email: leigh@theaxholmeacademy.com

Website: www.theaxholmeacademy.com

Principal: Mr D Keogh

Vice Principal: Mr B Creasy

Assistant Principal: Mr J Bennett

Assistant Principal: Mrs L Kinroy

Head of Year 7: Miss E Leigh

KS3 Student Support Worker: Mrs E Freear