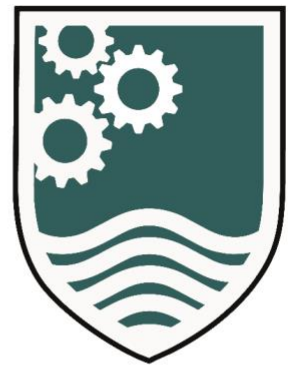


Our Ref: RP/NM/da

14th June 2024



Bloxwich Academy

www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

We are well into the final half term of the school year; a school year that has seen a number of changes for both staff and pupils. I have to say again; how proud we are of the vast majority of our pupils and the way they have adapted to the new high standards we have put in place since January. **Behaviour in our school is improving rapidly**, and uniform, in particular, is beginning to be a point of pride for myself and my staff.

I cannot wait to introduce our **new values-led praise system** in September and begin to recognise the many wonderful pupils in our school for their schoolwork, behaviour choices and uniform. We are a school that believes in making every lesson an opportunity to make a valuable contribution, and every day is a chance to treat others with respect and support the equality of all pupils, staff and parent/carers. Quite simply, we believe in pupils being successful, being self-motivated, and being rewarded as often as possible.

We do of course have to balance the praise we give with sanctions for **the small minority of pupils that are struggling to do the right thing** in school, be it uniform or behaviour in general. Our detention system means that we sanction on the same day as the rule-breaking occurs, meaning pupils are fully aware of the reason they have been placed in detention. Although we are under no legal obligation to inform parent/carers of detentions after school, we feel this would not uphold the spirit of Bloxwich Academy, as we would hate for any parent or carer to be at home worried about their child. As such we do text home daily, ensuring you are fully aware of the whereabouts of your child.

It is vital that you **support our detention system**, as it underpins the drive for a better education for your child. Without your support, we cannot guarantee your child will receive the best education in every lesson. Pupils who feel empowered to misbehave without consequences will damage the chances of every other child in the classroom, which is of course not upholding our values of respect and equality for all.

Regarding our reasoning related to uniform, I would like to refer you back to my previous correspondence in May, excerpted below:

One of our most treasured values at Bloxwich Academy is the right of every child to be treated with respect and it is for this reason that we are pushing our uniform standards with such vigour. Our uniform is an equalizer, paying no mind to wealth, social status, race, or religion, ensuring that when each child is at school, they are visually no different to any other child. It is also the reason we do not have branded, expensive uniform, ensuring that each item can be purchased from any number of stores, including George at Asda, Sainsbury's, and many items at Primark. **Symbols of wealth, such as Valentino (fashion) belts, gold and silver bracelets, hooped gold or silver earrings and sovereign style rings have no place in our school.** This is because they can be dangerous, causing pupils to become targets of theft. It is also because those pupils who may not have access to such status symbols can be made to feel embarrassed that they cannot afford the latest bracelets, earrings or fashion belts. This goes directly against our drive to equalise the experiences our children have at school and ensure no child feels undervalued, or ashamed of what they do not have.



Bloxwich Academy Secondary
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Bloxwich, Walsall
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Matrix
Academy Trust
EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

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Bloxwich Academy



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See below the behaviour focuses for the final five weeks of the school year

1. No leggings.
2. No very short skirts.
3. No caps.
4. Blazers must be worn and not carried around or stuffed in bags unless permission has been given to remove it, usually due to warm weather at the Headteacher's discretion.
5. No jewellery other than a single small ring and a pair of silver or gold studs. (No nose studs, tongue studs, bracelets and sovereign style chunky rings)
6. No hoodies, coats or branded tops are to be worn beneath the blazer.
7. No trainers, crocs or pumps are to be worn in the place of school shoes.
8. Socks are to be worn below the knee.
9. Fake eyelashes are not permitted.

See below the focus from September

1. All the focuses outlined above will remain in place from September.

In addition:

2. Pupils will need to wear their uniform all day, including break and lunch time.
3. Skirts that are too short will need replacing with school trousers loaned from the school store.
4. Pupils who are not in school shoes will be loaned a pair of school shoes for the day.
5. Jewellery that is not permitted in school will be confiscated and placed in the school safe to be collected at the end of the school day. Repeated cases will result in parents/carers being asked to collect banned items from reception.
6. We will continue to monitor make-up and eyelashes, ensuring any fake eyelashes are removed in line with our policy.

Change to the end of the school day from September

I would also like to remind you of the change to the end of the school day. From September, all pupils in both Key Stage 3 and 4, will finish the school day at 3:10pm. No pupil will leave prior to this time. Please ensure that you factor in this change to the school day if you are collecting your child from school at the end of the day.

Group sizes in Bloxwich Academy's sixth form are smaller than they need to be in order to be financially viable. This puts us in a difficult position because the Sixth Form is drawing away staff and financial resources which could be used to improve the experience of pupils in Years 7 to 11. For us to have the resources to be able to give pupils in Years 7 to 11 the best possible experience, we are intending to close the sixth form at Bloxwich Academy. From September 2025, our Bloxwich students will instead be able to attend Wednesfield Academy, another of our schools, which is less than 10 minutes from Bloxwich Academy. Wednesfield has much better sixth form facilities and subject specialists for all subjects. Pupils are, of course, entitled to apply to any other post-16 providers. We are fortunate to have many excellent providers right on our doorstep. All pupils will receive detailed careers guidance so they can make informed choices about their futures. The first year this will apply to will be the current Year 10, who will finish their GCSE studies in summer 2025.



Our updated Admissions Policy is available to view of our Academy website, the consultation period will end on 12th July 2024.

If you have any responses please contact us at consultation@bloxwichacademy.co.uk.

Please find the link to our calendar term dates below.

[Calendar - Term Dates - Bloxwich Academy](#)

Yours sincerely




Mr R Prime
Headteacher



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