28th June 2024



Dear Parents/Carers



Building successful, resilient and confident individuals.

Our curriculum provides pupils with the knowledge, skills and enriching opportunities to thrive in their chosen career path, and make valuable and informed contributions to a modern society.

OUR VALUES



Valuable contribution

A telling school

ead respectful lives

Understanding towards others

Everyone is equal

Self motivated to achieve

The school year is nearly at an end, and the summer break is peeping around the corner and waving to us all, inviting us to spend quality time with our loved ones, to recharge our batteries, and hopefully enjoy some fine weather. The dark days of January now seem a distant memory. And I don't just mean in terms of the weather. I say this because the school we are privileged to work at today is not the same school it was just after Christmas. I use the word privileged sincerely, as your children, our pupils, are the heart of an incredible community. The vast majority of them are living examples of the values of respect, self-motivation and kindness, treating the staff and fellow pupils alike, with a deep understanding of their right to equality, understanding that we are all different, and that this is something to be celebrated.

Where we've come from, where we're going and how we're going to get there

I mentioned the school being on a journey, and of course a journey can take time, but as long as we keep a firm eye on our final destination, we will not fail to arrive, maybe tired, with a few scrapes and bruises picked up on the way, but nothing will be allowed to prevent us from reaching the school we are creating together. It is a school that sits not too far into the future, a school that people will do anything to get their children a place at. A school where the pupils who will say with pride, that they were educated at Bloxwich Academy.

So where are we now on our journey? How far have we travelled? Quite simply, we have made huge strides in many key areas, including **tackling uniform standards** to bring a sense of equality to our children; **behaviour in lessons**, allowing learning to flourish; **behaviour in the corridors**, that are calm and no longer areas where pupils congregate - they are now arriving to lessons directly; and finally the canteen, where we spend our social time, is a place of pleasant chats and staff and pupils **enjoying a meal together**.

Communication

Leamore Lane

Bloxwich Academy Secondary

We know that communication was not always a strength of Bloxwich Academy and we have prioritised improving this. With the gradual introduction of our **six core values**, we are transforming the way that staff, pupils and parent/carers communicate with each other. We have striven to reopen lines of communication with home, and though it is not always easy in a large school of thirteen hundred or more pupils, we do all we can to answer your concerns within 24 hours, by phone, or when we can, in person. It's still not perfect – we know this. One situation can suddenly overwhelm another. But please, when this happens, let us know and we will do all we can to deal with your enquiry or situation immediately. We will never simply ignore your call. More likely is we have prioritised a safeguarding incident, child in need, or an incident requiring immediate investigation, and your call has been added to the call log waiting to be actioned.

Belonging

More than anything, we are fast developing a sense of warmth in our school, a feeling of belonging and dare I say it, a love for our school once more. At lunchtimes now, staff and pupils share quality time working on word searches and general knowledge quizzes, when a raffle of all the pupils taking part takes place for bags, or bars of chocolate. Our pupils thank our catering staff and the team that cleans their tables and sweep the canteen floor, recognising that, whether you are the headteacher or the person serving you a jacket potato and beans, we are all equal. Each morning, we welcome our pupils into school, telling them how glad we are to see them. We talk in line up about our hopes for the day, the need to take every ounce of learning from their lessons and each Friday we ask them to spend time with their friends and family at the weekend, to tell a parent, or carer, a brother or sister, or a loved one, that you appreciate them, to be kind, to help with the dishes, the hoovering or to make a cup of tea for someone who loves you. The school we are creating is a school that invests not only in academic success, but in the emotional growth of each child, in their transition into young adults.

We need you

However, we are not over the finish line. There is still work to be done and changes to be made, and we know that there are times when we do not make the grade, when we may stumble, as we keep our eyes on the high bar we have set ourselves, and this is where we need your support. This school is not an island, we are not isolated from our community, and whether you are a parent, carer or a significant adult in the lives of our children, you are a part of this community at the centre of which we stand. If we are to raise young adults that are resilient, self-motivated and believe in the democratic values of this country, that each and every person has the right to succeed, to be treated with dignity and respect, then we need to work together. We need you to support our systems, be it sanctions or praise; be it our values or our growing ethos of kindness and warmth. We need you to continue to role model the importance of respect, remembering that, though at times we may not see eye to eye, we deal with any and all situations calmly, allowing the children to see that conflict resolution can be achieved without resorting to shouting or threats of violence.

We hope that you have started to see that the rebirth of Bloxwich Academy is now well and truly underway. But more importantly, we want you to join us on our journey, walking with us as we seek to offer your children the very best we can offer. As a parent/carer you are as much a part of the school as we are. A school is more than bricks and mortar, and even though we are looking forward to our brand-new school building to start construction in the







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Bloxwich Academy Secondary

near future, we are not willing to wait to start the true reconstruction of Bloxwich Academy, and that reconstruction begins with us.

Finally, and with the greatest humility, we would like to thank you all for trusting us with the education of your children. As educators, be it teachers, support staff or site staff, we have the greatest responsibility you could wish for, to work with our pupils, your children, here at Bloxwich Academy, a responsibility that we would not change for the world.

Reminder - Change to the end of the school day from September

I would also like to remind you of the slight 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.

<u>Calendar - Term Dates - Bloxwich Academy</u>

Yours sincerely

Mr R Prime Headteacher







Bloxwich Academy Secondary

Leamore Lane



