

7 October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Early finish for staff training – Monday 10 October, 2pm

Please be reminded that on Monday 10 October, the academy will close at **2pm to all pupils** due to staff training. Early buses, including the Wessington bus, have been arranged. If you would prefer your child to remain at the academy until the usual finish time a supervised area will be provided. Please email info@davidnieper.academy if your child will remain in the academy.

Year 11 GCSE Revision Evening & Sixth Form Open Evening – Wednesday 12 October

On Wednesday 12 October 5-7pm we will be holding our Year 11 GCSE Revision Evening and Sixth Form Open Evening. A presentation will be held at 5pm in the Main Hall, and repeated at 6pm, where we will share with parents and carers the upcoming events and opportunities planned to support our Year 11 pupils towards success in their final exams. Additionally, the evening will provide the opportunity to speak with academy staff and find out about the exciting A-level and BTEC courses which are on offer for enrolment in September 2023.

We do hope that all Year 11 pupils, together with parents/carers, are able to join us for this important evening. Please see separate letter which provides full details.

Year 13 UCAS/Application evening – Thursday 13 October

On Thursday 13 October, 5-6pm, we are holding a UCAS/Application evening which will provide an opportunity for parents/carers to find out more information about the UCAS process and deadlines. The evening will also provide the opportunity to discuss apprenticeships and other post-18 destinations with our Sixth Form members of staff.

Attendance Matters

Studies show that students who attend under 90% are highly unlikely to achieve their full potential. Our expectation is that all students achieve 96% attendance as our minimum target. Below is a chart of our cohort from 2022 and their GCSE results against attendance percentages

Measure	2022 cohort Exams
Gap to Target – Attendance 96-100%	GCSE target grades achieved in EVERY subject
Gap to Target – Attendance 91-95%	½ GCSE grade below in EVERY subject
Gap to Target – Attendance below 90%	1 GCSE grade below in EVERY subject

Please can all parents/carers contact the academy on each day of a student's absence. If your child is not feeling 100%, please medicate as appropriate and send to school. The pastoral team will always contact home if they feel a student is too unwell to stay.

Homework - Art and D&T

Students in Key Stage 3 have been given a black homework book, a knowledge organiser and a folder. In D&T (including food and textiles) and Art, homework may sometimes include printing images or information. All students have a login for the printers in school, with credit added at the start of the academic year. As a faculty we offer support with homework tasks, as well as using the computers and printers to enable all students to complete their homework to the required standard and within the 2-week timeframe. To accommodate all, we offer a large number of support sessions in A13 and the art room on the bottom floor of the academy (see below). Students have been offered this since the start of the year and it has been explained in both Art and D&T lessons. We have also taken the time in lessons this week to celebrate good homework and answer student queries.

Support sessions offered, including for IT and printing.

Tuesday - Friday 8-8.25am

Every lunchtime

Homework club is also available Tuesday - Friday in C01

Laptops – Year 7

If parents wish to borrow a laptop to support their child's learning at home, please contact Mr Endacott cendacott@davidnieper.academy or Mr Shepherd dshepherd@davidnieper.academy who will be able to arrange this for you.

Extra Curricula programme

In our next full Newsletter, we will be celebrating the wonderful activities that are taking part in our extra curricula programme. As a taster we are showcasing the work of our Acting for Television and Friday club both of which are proving to be very popular activities.

Acting for Television

Students from all year groups are invited to join Acting for Television! Over the past couple of weeks students have been introduced to the skills needed to become an actor for the screen. Students began by looking at a Tracy Beaker script. We watched a scene from the show and recreated it, considering the use of camera angles and positions. We then looked at consistency between takes, and how actors need to film the same scene twice with the same acting skills. Last week we looked at headshots and how facial expression is so important in communicating emotion to the camera. It's been a pleasure to see a variety of students attend Acting for Television and look forward to the next session.



Friday Lunchtime Club

This week, Friday club was a welcome escape from the rain, but also lots of fun! The students played an indoor football tournament and split themselves into three teams. Thank you to the Year 10's who took leadership roles in the organisation of this. It is wonderful to see Friday club being so popular every week.

Year 7 – Megazone Laser Tag, Derby

A reminder that all consent forms and monies for the Year 7 trips to Megazone in Derby need to be returned by Wednesday 12 October. Please return forms to form tutors and pay via ParentPay. This activity is House based and so will be accompanied by Heads of House and by Form Tutors. Please see the trip letter for full details. The dates are as follows:

- Monday 17 October, Erewash and Wye
- Tuesday 18 October, Amber and Derwent
- Thursday 20 October, Lathkill and Trent

Lost property

To enable us to return any items of lost property, it is important that all items of uniform and PE kit are labelled with pupil names. Lost items can be collected from the Main Office.

Coats

As the weather is now turning colder, we recommend that pupils bring a coat or rain jacket to school. Pupils are also welcome to wear a David Nieper Academy jumper under their blazer. Hoodies under or over blazers do not form any part of our uniform and are required to be removed prior to entering the building, therefore we recommend that pupils do not bring hoodies to school.

Hygiene Products

We have a supply of sanitary products which are available to students, which can be collected from the Pastoral Support Managers.

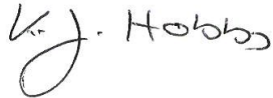
Dates for the diary

Monday 10 October	Early finish for pupils at 2pm
Wednesday 12 October	Year 11 GCSE Revision Evening & Sixth Form Open Evening 5-7pm
Thursday 13 October	Year 13 UCAS Information Evening
24-28 October	Half-term holidays
Wednesday 21 December	Last day of term

If we can help or support in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us. Please email info@davidnieper.academy and a member of staff will be in touch.

Enjoy the weekend.

Yours faithfully



Dr K Hobbs
Headteacher