

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear parents and carers,

### End of Spring term update

As we approach the end of the Spring term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a busy and rewarding few months here at Kirk Hallam Community Academy. Students have enjoyed educational visits such as to the Birmingham Symphony Hall, Wembley Stadium, and the University of Derby. Year 10 and 12 geographers spent a week in Cornwall during February half term, and our Sixth Form are looking forward to an interesting trip to Poland during Easter. Additionally, we celebrated World Book Day, and hosted a successful Careers Fair to inspire students to think about their future plans.

As we break up for the Easter holidays, I would like to remind you of some important details:

#### Final day of term – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April:

The school will close for the Spring term on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. We will be running a staggered end to the school day.

- Year 11 will leave site at 2.05pm
- Year 10 will leave site at 2.15pm
- Year 9 will leave site at 2.25pm
- Year 8 will leave site at 2.35pm
- Year 7 will leave site at 2.45pm

The school bus time has been changed to 2.55pm on this day. If you need your child to be supervised in Lakeside until the normal end of the school day (3.05pm) please contact us via the office.

Year 7 have won our 'Battle of the Year groups' attendance challenge whereby the year group with the highest attendance in a chosen week would win a non-uniform day for their year group. As their prize, **year 7 are allowed to wear non-uniform on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April.** Year 8 to 11 should wear full uniform as normal.

#### Return to school:

We look forward to seeing all students return to school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at the normal time.

#### Safety on our school driveway:

We are becoming increasingly concerned about the number of cars which are coming onto school site during the morning, particularly to drop students off before turning around and exiting. This poses a hazard due to the students who are on foot and coming through the gates at that time.

As you will agree, we must put the health and safety of our students first and as such, we will be making a change to the morning entry routines. On our return from the Easter break, cars will no longer be routinely allowed down the drive between 8.15am -8.35am.

As you will see from the photo below, cones will be placed at the top of the drive and we ask that students are dropped off in the turning circle and make their way the short distance to the gate on foot. If there are pre-existing reasons that students need to be specifically dropped off within the school grounds, for example safeguarding, medical or emotional needs, please be assured that these arrangements can continue and staff will be available at the top of the drive for such circumstances to allow cars to proceed. There will be no changes to the end of day arrangements as these already prevent traffic from entering or exiting during this time.





*Photo of cones which will be in place on the school driveway between 8.15am - 8.35am after Easter.*

**Attendance and punctuality:**

Here at Kirk Hallam we all value the importance of school attendance. We have seen an improvement of 1.2% in attendance this academic year and want to continue this into the summer term. We have had lots of recognition events for having good attendance this term, including Absent Free January and the Wembley trip. As a school we have seen a 28% decrease in the number of students that arrive late to school. Please continue to support your child in the mornings to ensure they arrive at school for 8.30am.

**End of term rewards trips:**

We are currently in the process of organising our end of term rewards trips for Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July, and there will be a wide variety of experiences for students to choose from. Letters will come out after Easter which will outline our expectations for places on the trips and further information regarding locations and costs.

**Uniform and equipment:**

Uniform is an integral part of school life. It represents excellence, high standards and pride in ourselves and our school community. Being equipped for school is a necessity; it promotes responsibility in our students and allows for lessons to start promptly, without distractions of needing to obtain/distribute equipment. With this in mind, we need to be very clear in our expectations of our uniform and equipment and we ask for the continued cooperation of students and parents in maintaining these. Please refer to our previous letters for full details or check our website page at: [Uniform and Equipment | Kirk Hallam Community Academy](#). We ask for the support of parents and carers to ensure that your child is in the correct uniform and fully equipped. If a student is not appropriately dressed, they will be required to borrow school supplied uniform. Failure to comply with this will result in sanctions being issued.

I would like to extend my thanks to all of our parents and carers for your continued partnership with us and our school community. Your involvement is invaluable, whether attending our school events, helping with homework, or simply encouraging your child to do their best.

I wish every member of our community a restful, enjoyable, and safe Easter break. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Turner  
Headteacher