



September 2023

Executive Principal: Lesley Powell CBE Chair of Governors: Amanda Moon Head of School: Alex Hook

Dear Parents

The beginning of term has begun!

The routines and rhymes of school are falling into place and having the kids back in the building has certainly breathed life back into it!

Sorry for the length of the email and the attachments, (all of this will be housed for reference on the letters section of the school website); however I hope that this keeps you up to date with plans for the forthcoming year.

1 Insight

- All parents and students should now have an active Insight account. This houses things that are very useful to know.
- Homework
- Assessment data
- Reports
- Behaviour
- Rewards

If there are any issues, contact insight.help@shottonhallacademy.co.uk

2 Food

- All students can get a free breakfast (serving begins at 8am)
- A range of snacks are available at breaktime (10.50-11.10)
- Students who are entitled to free meals can get a piece of free fruit at break time
- Any students with dietary needs, please contact carole.crosbie@shottonhallacademy.co.uk and we will of course accommodate their requirements.
- Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle
- What has been purchased is visible through Socopay

3 Routines of School

- We encourage students to be onsite at 8.20am
- Students should check their email (Outlook) and Insight every day
- The learning resource centre (LRC) is open every day until 4.10pm. This includes the library, computers and printers.

4 Extracurricular activities

- The current schedule is attached – this starts next week (week beginning – 11.09.23)
- Please encourage your child to attend everything or at least something.
- We accept requests, if your child has an interest, please ask them to speak to Mr Mann and we will try to accommodate this.

5 Period 6 (year 11 only)

Starts for year 11 on Tuesday 12 September, with Thursday starting the following week, 21 September. Transport can be arranged for students who use County transport or the school shuttle bus by signing up on the list at Reception by the end of break time on Tuesday, so that transport can be arranged. Please be aware that the transport may not be available until 4-20pm. Mr Davies will coordinate this, with students signing up.

6 SEND, the contact details for the SEND team are:

Angie Mein – angie.mein@shottonhallacademy.co.uk
Helen Edwards-Barkel – helen.edwardsbarkel@shottonhallacademy.co.uk
Carole Crosbie – carole.crosbie@shottonhallacademy.co.uk

All current SEND students' parents should have access to support plans via Edukey.

Here at the Academy at Shotton Hall we strive on ensuring every student experiences an excellent education every day. Whilst we hope that any additional needs would have been identified before starting the Academy sometimes this is not the case. If teachers, parents or the pupils themselves suspect an educational need, we will investigate this. This forms part of our graduated approach, in which we Assess, Plan, Do, Review. This ongoing cycle ensures that effective provision is put in place, as well as removing barriers to learning. If you suspect that your child has a special educational need could please contact Angie Mein or Helen Edwards-Barkel.

For SEND students, Edukey allows you to monitor your child's progress for their SEND targets but also be involved when they are reviewed each term. We have a range of interventions to meet the needs of all of our students

7 The curriculum plans for this academic year are available on the school website [Subjects | The Academy at Shotton Hall \(shottonhallacademy.co.uk\)](https://shottonhallacademy.co.uk)

More detailed, student friendly plans are available on Student Pod, this is in the SharePoint App, within their Office 365 accounts.

This platform gives a bespoke virtual learning environment for your child in every subject. Online textbooks, resources and teaching plans are all available. We strongly recommend they immerse themselves in it. Self-study outside the classroom is invaluable.

8 PD Programme

The personal development curriculum at Shotton Hall plays an integral part of whole school life for our young people. We encourage students to make positive contribution to their school and the wider community with a respect of equality and British value and to celebrate the rich and diverse communities which they belong to.

We provide a huge number of experiences and opportunities through our curriculum and extracurricular activities to develop skills and interests. We also recognise the importance of ensuring that students know how to keep themselves safe and how to take care of their physical and mental wellbeing, whilst encouraging the development of positive traits and virtues that will allow our young people to flourish.

9 Academic Information

- All student reports are housed in Insight, so you can review academic progress over the terms and years.
- You will receive three academic reports this year. The first assessment point for all year groups is November. A report outlining progress will follow.
- Each year group will have two parents' evenings.
- The first one is an online event, 'meet the tutor' - the purpose of which is to talk about the year ahead and updates on your child.
- The later event can be online or in person (parental choice), with subject teachers to discuss academic progress.

10 Dates for your diary for this half term

- 13.09.23 – Year 7 photos
- 14.09.23 – Open evening for year 6 [please share this date with people interested in applying for a place at the Academy]
- 28.09.23 – Movie night - Inside Out
- 05.10.23 - Parents' Evening 'Meet the Tutor'
- 25.10.23 – Halloween Disco
- I hope that your child reports a happy start to the beginning of the new academic year.
- As always please get in touch if you have any questions
(alexandra.hook@shottonhallacademy.co.uk)

Yours sincerely

Alex Hook

Alex Hook
Head of School