

Embed confidence; fuel ambition.

16 May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 7-10 End of Year Assessments

During the final half term of the year we focus on building student confidence, by explicitly teaching them a wide range of retrieval practice techniques across all their subject areas. We then provide a series of assessments to allow students to practice applying this knowledge. For Key Stage 3 these assessments take place in lesson time throughout June and July.

However, for our Year 10 students it is important that we take this first opportunity to introduce them to the rigour of the Exam Hall and the expectations of the formal GCSEs. The focus for this first round of GCSE practice exams is very much about managing time and reducing anxiety.

The Year 10 exams will take place from Thursday 19 June, through to Friday 27 June. Mrs Walsh, our exams office will write to you next week with an overview of the exam schedule.

I have been so impressed with the positive, hardworking way that our Year 10 students have approached this first year of their GCSEs, and we look forward to supporting them through the next half term.

Year 12 End of Year Assessments

The next half term also provides a great opportunity for our Year 12 students to consolidate their learning to date, and they will also be sitting formal exams in classrooms and the Exam Hall, from 16 June onwards. Timetables will be shared next week.

School trips update

Year 10 geographers have been busy collecting data for their Paper 3 exam in Headingley over the last two weeks, where they have been interviewing residents and visitors about the perceived impacts of Headingley Stadium. This is the first of two compulsory trips our GCSE geographers take part in; they will next be heading to Hornsea on the east coast to collect data linked to their studies of the UK's coastal landscapes. Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition season is well underway: our Year 10 and Year 12 Bronze Award pupils recently completed their training weekend in the Otley / Ilkley area, whilst the Silver Award group of Year 11s spent three days journeying from Burnhall to Otley. Mr Rhodes will be launching the DofE Award to Year 9 pupils next month. Other trips so far this half term include a theatre visit to see a performance of An Inspector Calls (Years 10 & 11), a full-day workshop in Manchester looking at entry routes to university study (Year 12), and a tour of the nearby Yorkshire Water facility (Year 8).

Community Day - Wednesday 16 July

Thank you to all parents / carers who have secured their child's place on the Community Day trips by granting consent **and** making their payment via ParentPay. Please note that you will not receive an email

link requesting payment, so you need to login into your ParentPay account and select the correct trip for your child. If your child does not wish to attend, please still click on the consent link and decline consent so we know not to keep sending reminders. If you are having any issues with logging in to ParentPay, or have not had an email requesting consent, please contact Mr Rhodes: james.rhodes@elawnswood.co.uk The deadline for consenting and paying is Friday 23 May. If you have not given consent or paid by this date, then your child will not be able to attend the trip.

Attendance Monitoring

In school we monitor student's attendance daily, we tell students to aim for 100% attendance but recognise that sometimes things happen that cause students to not meet this target. We ensure there is support in place to remove barriers to attendance and will work with families to try and ensure all students' attendance is as good as it can be. However, when a student's attendance continues to be a concern, we have a 5-stage process to monitoring attendance that is described in the table below.

Stage One	Students whose attendance drops below 95%. An initial concern letter will be sent to remind families of the importance of good attendance and offer support.
Stage Two	Ongoing concern as attendance continues to fall below 95%, a further letter is sent to families. This letter points out that legal action may follow.
Stage Three	Attendance is a concern and a letter is sent in the post detailing a 20 day monitoring period. Failure to improve attendance will move to stage four.
Stage Four	During the monitoring period attendance has not improved. Families are invited to a School Attendance Panel meeting, A Notice to improve is issued, this is part of the legal process. Failure to improve following the notice to improve moves to stage five.
Stage Five	Refer to Leeds City Council Legal Team for prosecution.

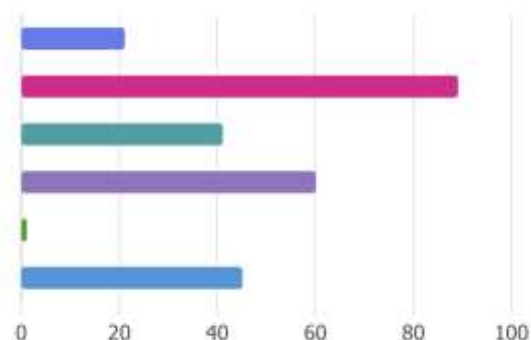
We are now working with AStar attendance to improve the efficiency and way we monitor attendance, as part of this you may receive communication from us via the email address noreply@astarattendace.com. Letters from this email address contain a link for you to click on, clicking on this link lets us know that you have read the letter.

Research shows that good attendance at school leads to better results for your child and that they are likely to earn a better salary in the future. Please encourage your child to attend school every day and be on time. If your child is absent, please report this to us, either via the classcharts app or by telephoning on each day of their absence. If you require any support or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

School Communication

Thank you if you completed the communication survey last term. We surveyed parents to ensure that the way that we communicate with you in a way that you prefer. 257 parents responded to the survey across all year groups in school. The results for the different forms of communication are shown below.

● Telephone Calls	21
● Email	89
● Text	41
● Classcharts Annoucements	60
● X (Twitter)	1
● Other	45



The survey went further and established that if your child is absent from school 70% of parents prefer a telephone call. If your child is late to school 40% of parents like a telephone call and 38% like the use of a text message. Our primary method of contact if your child is absent will continue to be a telephone call, although we have now introduced the use of text where we are not able to contact you or we have had recent contact.

Key dates for next week -

Monday

Year 10 Food Technology practical

Year 12 Chemistry required practical, University of Leeds, all day

Tuesday

Year 10 Food Technology practical

Thursday

Ice cream van rewards

Athletics, 2pm-4pm, Leeds Beckett University

Friday

Year 11 leavers event

Year 13 leavers ceremony

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Bell
Headteacher