



12th April 2019

Dear Parents

We would like to update you on a busy half term at Laisterdyke Leadership Academy:

STAR Communities:

All of our pupils and staff have been placed in one of the STAR Communities which represent one of the STAR Values in our school – Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect. STAR values are an integral part of all Star schools, encouraging pupils to demonstrate the STAR values. At Laisterdyke, pupils can gain points through excellent attendance and behaviour, and through hard work and effort to achieve their academic potential, as well as going “above and beyond” to help other pupils and staff around the Academy. This week our pupils in Years 7-10 enjoyed our first STAR Communities Sports Events. Pupils in each year group competed for their community in football, benchball, dodgeball and softball rounders. The pupils said they really enjoyed their day, both playing and supporting the other members of their community.

Sixth Form

Star Academies have made the decision to suspend entry to Year 12 for next year, pending a decision on the long term future of our Sixth Form in the next academic year. This has been a very difficult decision for the Trust, however there are two Sixth Form Colleges opening in Bradford for the next academic year, as well as Bradford College, and all of those providers can offer a much wider curriculum due to the size of their provision. For pupils who wish to remain in a school environment, the Sixth Form at our sister school, Tong Leadership Academy, will be remaining open. Arrangements have been made this week to enable our Year 11 pupils who are interested in attending the Sixth Form at Tong to visit the provision. This decision does not affect pupils who are currently in Year 12 at the Academy.

Knife Crime

You have been sent a link to a letter from our Chief Executive, Mufti Hamid Patel, which has been sent to all Star Academies parents, regarding knife crime. As you will be aware from the news, knife crime is a growing problem in towns and cities across the UK, resulting in a number of well reported tragic incidents. We will work with you to protect your children from the horrors of knife crime, but would echo our CEO’s message to remain vigilant about what your children are spending their money on, and who they are with, both in person and online. The Trust’s policy as detailed in the letter is to take a zero tolerance approach to knife crime and anybody who is found to be carrying a knife in school will be permanently excluded from our school.

Ofsted

Our Ofsted Inspection took place on 12th and 13th February. At the time of writing this letter, the publication of our report was imminent. Unfortunately I am not allowed to share details of the report until it has been published, however the Inspectors recognised the progress the school has made since becoming a member of Star Academies.



Easter Revision Classes

Our programme of revision classes for the Easter holidays has been finalised. The classes are an excellent opportunity for your Year 11 child to maximise their potential in key subjects. Could you please ensure that if your child has been called in for revision classes, they arrive on time to allow the teachers to make a prompt start to the lessons. **Please see the attached schedule for Easter revision classes.**

Uniforms

Please remember to ensure your child is in full school uniform every school day. If you need to purchase additional uniform items, they can be purchased from Natasha's or The Uniform Shop in Bradford City Centre.

Mobile Phones

Please note mobile phones should not be seen or heard anywhere in the Academy. If a pupil is seen using a mobile phone, they will be asked to switch it off and it will be confiscated. On the first occasion, the pupil can collect the mobile phone from Reception at the end of the day. If it is confiscated a second time, parents will need to collect it from Reception.

Congratulations

Congratulations to our Year 11 pupil Dawud Ghafar who won the Bradford Under 16s Star Student award at the Telegraph and Argus Schools Awards.

Congratulations to our Year 7 Girls Rugby Team who represented Bradford in the Yorkshire Qualifying Round of the National Cup.

Congratulations to our Year 8 Boys Football Team, who ended the 11 a -side season unbeaten, winning the league and with a very impressive 31 goals for, and only 7 against.

Spring Break

We break up for the end of spring term at the end of the normal school day on **Friday 12th April**. We re-open to staff and pupils on **Monday 29th April**.

We hope you have a restful spring break that Year 11 and Year 13 pupils revise productively for their exams.

In addition, please note **Monday 6th May** is Bank Holiday and school will be closed to staff and pupils.

Yours faithfully



Karen Jones

Principal



1 April 2019.

Dear Parents/Carers.

Laisterdyke Sixth Form Provision

We are currently doing all we can to prepare your child to focus on, and be successful in, their end of course examinations in May and June. When they receive their examination results on Thursday 22nd August you will want to ensure they access the right courses and qualifications that will take them into their next phase of education or training. This letter outlines information relating to the future arrangements for sixth form provision at Laisterdyke Leadership Academy.

The Trust has been undertaking a review of its sixth form provision in all its schools. In addition, you may be aware that across Bradford a number of schools have reviewed whether they can maintain their sixth form provision in the light of the new sixth form colleges due to open in September 2019.

In considering the sixth form at Laisterdyke it has become clear that, in light of its low pupil numbers and the new provision opening in Bradford, it will not be financially viable in the longer term.

Trustees and governors have therefore taken the difficult but necessary decision to suspend entry into Laisterdyke's sixth form from September 2019. The longer term future of the sixth form will be decided in the next academic year.

This means that for pupils in the current Year 11, there will be no admission into Year 12 at the academy for September 2019. Your child will need to make alternative arrangements for their sixth form studies.

Whilst this is regrettable, it is our firm belief that a wider range of courses and provision can be accessed beyond the academy, which will benefit your child.

The sixth form at our sister school, Tong Leadership Academy, will remain open. They will offer both A-level and vocational options, or a blend of both, from September 2019. We will facilitate a visit to view their sixth form provision. The decision to suspend entry into the sixth form in September does not affect those currently in Year 12. They will continue their courses and complete them as planned in the summer of 2020.



Laisterdyke
Leadership Academy

I am committed to ensuring your child makes well informed and positive choices about their next phase of education or training. To that end, we will work with local sixth form providers so that pupils have access to the right information and guidance to help them decide what and where to study next. All students have access to our Careers Advisor and extra appointments can be made if required. In addition, our senior staff are supporting students with applications to other providers.

There is still plenty of time for you and your child to look into the best provision for the courses they want to follow next year. Sixth forms offer visits right through the summer term. We have held an assembly in school today to inform your child of arrangements going forward.

There will be an opportunity to discuss this in more detail at our public parent meeting on Wednesday 10 April at the academy from 5.30 pm -6.45 pm. Of course, if you would like to speak to me more personally, please do not hesitate to contact me directly so that I can arrange a time to meet with you or speak to you by phone.

Yours faithfully,

Karen Jones
Principal





Star

1st April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

From the news, you will all be aware of the growing number of knife-related crimes in major towns and cities across the UK.

I wanted to take this opportunity to communicate with you directly and seek your support to ensure our children are safe and do not become victims of knife-related crime.

To protect all of our children from this harm, each of our schools will be:

- Delivering assemblies to students about the dangers of gangs and carrying a knife.
- Conducting unannounced checks of bags and persons for knives and other harmful items.
- Taking a zero tolerance approach to knives being brought into school, permanently excluding any student who does so.

However, to ensure all of our children arrive at school and return home safely each day, we need the support and vigilance of every parent.

Please support us in this effort by:

- Making sure that you are aware of who your child is friendly with outside of school.
- Monitoring who your child is communicating with on the internet.
- Talking to your child about the dangers of being in a gang and carrying a knife.
- Making sure that you are aware of what your child is doing with their spending money.

Please contact the school for support if this is needed. We are happy to help in any way we can.

Thank you for your continuing support with this and the school's efforts on behalf of all of our children.

Yours sincerely,

(Mufti) Hamid Patel
Chief Executive

Week 1 - wb 15/04/18

| Time | Monday (15/04/19) | Tuesday (16/04/19) | Wednesday (17/04/19) | Thursday (18/04/19) | Friday (19/04/19) |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 10am – 12pm | AM ICT CIDA CIDA / Business Targeted SAL / RNA / KSI | AM ICT CIDA / Business CIDA / Targeted Business students SAL / RNA / KSI / GOR French / Urdu Targeted French / Urdu students SHA / AHU | AM French / Urdu Targeted French / Urdu students SHA / AHU Art 11D/Ar1 ABR | AM English STAR GROUP SHE / RMA / NRE *9:30AM-12:30PM | AM |
| 12:30pm - 2:30pm | PM ICT CIDA CIDA / Business Targeted SAL / RNA / KSI | PM ICT CIDA / Business CIDA / Business Targeted SAL / RNA / KSI / GOR French / Urdu Targeted French / Urdu students SHA / AHU | PM French / Urdu Targeted French / Urdu students SHA / AHU Art 11D/Ar1 ABR | PM | PM |

Week 1 - wb 22/04/18

| Time | Monday (22/04/19) | Tuesday (23/04/19) | Wednesday (24/04/19) | Thursday (25/04/19) | Friday (26/04/19) |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| 10am – 12pm | AM | AM Maths STAR GROUP GBH / RDE / AIN / MHM *9:30AM-12:30PM | AM Science Sets 1-4 MKH / AWH / NCR | AM | AM |
| 12:30pm - 2:30pm | PM | PM | PM Science Sets 1-4 MKH / AWH / NCR | PM | PM |