

September 2023

## Riverside Academy

'Learning together, achieving excellence'  
friendship, resilience, excellence



Email: [roles and responsibilities@riverside-academy.org](mailto:roles.and.responsibilities@riverside-academy.org) Telephone: 01788 544096 Website:

[www.riversideacademy.co.uk](http://www.riversideacademy.co.uk)



Riverside Academy

# Newsletter

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back everyone. We have all been so impressed with how the children have settled back with us at Riverside after the summer holiday. We have been able to be out on the school field most lunchtimes and it has been lovely to see the children enjoying the space and each other's company.

In their classes, the children have been focused and keen to show their new teachers their learning and knowledge. We will regularly share with you the learning that has taken place through a monthly newsletter and children's photos on our Facebook page. If you haven't seen our Facebook page yet, please follow us!

### Protective behaviours- 'Taking Care Project'

As part of our ongoing PHSE programme in school, we will be revisiting the Taking Care Project throughout the school. The taking care project is centred around a protective behaviour approach and supports children to recognise their early warning signs and how to seek support when needed. Part of this approach involves encouraging the children to identify a network of adults that they can talk to if they are worried about something. We always encourage the children to have adults from home and school on this network. You can help to support your child with this by asking them who is on their own personal network.

### Pupil roles and responsibilities

There will continue to be lots of opportunities for the children to share their opinions and influence decisions that we make in school. Over the next 2 weeks, we will start the election process for our Head Boy and Girl from Year 6, School Council nominations will begin, Play Leader positions will be advertised and the selection process for a Junior Leadership Team will be well under way. We will be sharing this information with the children in assemblies, so please do encourage your child to put themselves forward for these roles.

### Uniform

We expect that all children attend school in the correct uniform, which consists of a combination of the following:

- Dark grey or black trousers, skirt or shorts.
- Purple sweatshirts or purple Cardigan
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Purple and white check dresses
- Black school shoes
- Children should not be wearing and jewelry in school. The only items that are considered appropriate are watches and studs worn in pierced ears, which must be removed for PE.

### PE kit

Please ensure that children have their P.E kits in school on the correct day.

All children need a PE Kit comprising of:

- A white top
- Black shorts or black tracksuit bottoms in the winter
- Pumps for indoor use and trainers for outdoor use.

## Attendance

From 8:40am the doors are open for the children to join their class, begin their morning learning task and be ready for the day. The school day starts at 8:50am. Children arriving after that time are noted with the time of their arrival. The gate closes at 9:00am and children arriving after that time will be recorded as late and should come into school via the office.

## Collection at the end of the day

Children must only be collected by an authorised adult - this is usually their parent(s) but may also be a family member or close friend that has been listed in the child's contact information.

If there is a change in the usual arrangements, please inform the school office - we are unable to release a child with a different adult/older sibling if we have not been made aware of the change in circumstance.

## Absence

If your child is absent from school for any reason, please make sure that you contact the school office on the first day of absence - thank you.

Throughout the year, we will monitor closely the attendance of all our pupils and contact you if your child's attendance is a concern. We understand that on occasions exceptional circumstances can affect a pupil's attendance. However, any absence can impact on children's progress. **If you have any concerns regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us so that we can work with you to support your child.**

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME INFORMAUTION FROM WARWICKSHIRE ATTENDANCE SERVICE:**

**The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (Platt v Isle of Wright 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.**

**The regulations regarding Leave of Absence (The Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) Regulations 2006 as amended by Education (Pupil Regulations) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013.) advise:**

- **Head teachers shall not grant any Leave of Absence during term time unless they consider there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.**

**If the leave is granted, Head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.**

**It is for the Head teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. When making an application for Leave of Absence in advance parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Head teacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is their responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.**

**The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent ie the parent with whom the child normally resides.**

**Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.**

**Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request**

may be considered as part of the leave of absence and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis and on its own merits.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'. This may result in legal action against the parent, by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

### Diary dates

We always try to share with you as much information as we can about upcoming school events. We will keep you informed about key dates via our newsletter, the school website and Facebook. Please have a look at our year calendar for an outline of the curriculum and learning events we have arranged to date. We will provide more detailed information about events closer to the time.

If you have any questions or wish to share any information with us there is always a member of the senior leadership team on the gate each morning, who will be happy to talk with you. Class teachers are available at the end of the school day, or alternatively please contact the school office.

We have lots of exciting learning opportunities planned for the coming year. We value your continued support and look forward to working with you and your children.

Have a lovely weekend,

Beccy Payne

Headteacher