



End of Term Update – December 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope you and your families are well.

I just want to provide an update in terms of end of term arrangements, to reflect on some of the successes of the year so far, and to revisit key information for you.

The Whitley AP Academy will close for the Christmas break on Friday 20th December. Pupils in Key Stages 3 and 4 will finish at 12:30, and Key Stage 2 pupils will finish at 12:40. If your child uses the Calderdale Transport Service, we have arranged for the bus to pick them up at this time. All pupils will be offered a lunch before they leave.

There have been lots of positive events and activities in school this term. Many pupils have enjoyed weekly reward trips to a variety of venues including: VR Immersion, 5-Alive Football, Retro Station and Mags on Ramps to name just a few. Our Year 10 and Year 11 pupils have had interactive sessions with both Calderdale and Kirklees Colleges, looking at Post-16 Options. Also, this term sporting competitions have taken place with other Alternative Provisions and although our teams haven't always won, our pupils have never given up and behaviour has been impeccable.

Uniform

We would like to reiterate expectations in terms of uniform for pupils at the Academy. All pupils, including those in Key Stage 2 are expected to comply with expectations in the table below. If pupils arrive at school and are not in correct uniform, they will be directed to return home to change, and sanctions will be applied on their return to school; staff will liaise with the Assistant Headteachers / Deputy Headteacher when this is required.

KS2 Uniform	KS3 / KS4 Uniform
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain black trousers or black knee length skirt.• White polo shirt.• Plain black V-Neck jumper.• Black footwear suitable for a busy school environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plain black trousers or black knee length skirt.• White shirt - short or long sleeved, no polo shirts.• Plain black V-neck / Crew-neck jumper.• Black footwear, suitable for a busy school environment.



Attendance and Punctuality

I'd like to remind our school community that attendance in school is incredibly important for academic and social development. School also have a responsibility to make sure that pupils are safe. At The Whitley AP Academy, we aim to create a secure, stimulating and caring learning environment to ensure all our pupils want to attend school. Attendance for many pupils is good; however, this can always be improved.

Please could all parents / carers contact the school office on 01422 244181 before 9am, in the event of a child's absence and please note holiday requests will not be authorised.

Punctuality continues to be an issue for many of our secondary aged pupils, your support in encouraging pupils to arrive to school on time is appreciated.

- Primary aged pupils, Year 3 to 6, should be in school by 09:10.
- Secondary aged pupils, Year 7 to 11, should be in school by 09:00.

Transport

Locations and timings of our minibus in the mornings and afternoons have been revised recently, below is a detailed breakdown. Please do read the schedule carefully, the bus will not wait for pupils, we do expect them to be on time at each pick-up / drop-off point.

In order to qualify for access to the bus at the end of the day, we will prioritise pupils with the best scores in terms of Achievement Points versus Behaviour Points. There are limited seats on the bus – the top fifteen pupils will be offered a place on the bus after school, all other pupils will be expected to make their own way home.

Morning - Route One

- 07:30 Minibus leaves the Academy
- 07:50 Siddal, Oxford Lane – outside Pharmacy
- 07:55 West Vale Academy, bus stop on Rochdale Road
- 08:05 Elland, outside B&M
- 08:30 Minibus arrives at the Academy



Morning - Route Two

- 08:30 Minibus leaves the Academy
- 08:35 Mixenden, Clough Lane – below Hambleton Drive
- 08:40 Pellon, Albert Road – below the junction with Highroad Well Lane
- 08:42 Pellon, Hanson Lane – opposite CAIR
- 08:50 Pellon Lane – Beech Hill School
- 08:53 Great Albion Street, outside Laura Mitchell Clinic
- 08:55 Lee Mount, Ovenden Road – junction with Ovenden Way
- 09:00 Minibus arrives at the Academy

Afternoon – Route

- 14:20 Minibus leaves the Academy
- 14:30 Vue, bus layby
- 14:40 Siddal, Oxford Lane – outside Pharmacy
- 14:45 West Vale Academy, bus stop on Rochdale Road
- 14:55 Elland, outside B&M

Term Dates for the rest of 2024-25

2025 Spring 1

INSET Day Monday 6th January 2025
Re-open Tuesday 7th January 2025
Close for Half-Term Friday 14th February 2025

2025 Spring 2

Re-open Monday 24th February 2025
Close for Easter Friday 4th April 2025

2025 Summer 1

Easter Monday Monday 21st April 2025
Re-open Tuesday 22nd April 2025
Closed for May Day Monday 5th May 2025
Close for Half-Term Friday 23rd May 2025

2025 Summer 1

Re-open Monday 2nd June 2025
Close for Midsummer Friday 18th July 2025








Safeguarding at the Academy

Safeguarding is everybody's business and part of our role in school is to ensure we keep pupils, staff and volunteers safe.

Safeguarding is the overriding priority at the Academy and includes aspects such as first aid provision, medical care plans, attendance, anti-bullying, risk assessments within the Academy and for educational visits, the safe recruitment of staff and volunteers etc., along with the more obvious areas of Child Protection, Child Sexual Exploitation and Prevent.

There are five members of staff who are Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) trained, with Mrs Adams being the lead DSL. Their role is to support other professionals in the Academy to recognise the needs of children, including protecting from possible abuse or neglect.

Who's who?

<p>Mrs R Adams</p> <p>Deputy Headteacher</p> 	<p>Mrs Catherine Maun</p> <p>Safeguarding & SEMH Lead</p> 
<p>Mr A Reid</p> <p>BfL Lead</p> 	<p>Ms R Buonocore</p> <p>Key Stage 2 Lead</p> 
<p>Mr P Hannah</p> <p>Headteacher</p> 	

If you have any safeguarding concerns, no matter how trivial they may seem, please raise them with Mrs Adams or Mrs Maun in the first instance.



I would like to say a huge 'thank you' for the support you have given both your child and the Academy through which can seem like a long and challenging term.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas break, and we look forward to seeing all pupils back in the Academy on Tuesday 7th January.

Yours sincerely

Phillip Hannah
Headteacher, The Whitley AP Academy