



Swindon Academy

The best in everyone™

A member of United Learning Trust

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9th September 2011

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to our new school year and I hope that you all had a restful summer break!

We have high hopes for the term and the year ahead and have every intention of building on the successes of last year.

I am pleased to say that our examination results continue to show significant improvement and we continue to be one of the most improved schools in the country; this gives us great confidence for the future.

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some information for the term ahead:

1. Our **links with parents** remain at the forefront of our work and we will continue with our regular coffee mornings at 9.00am on Tuesday's at Beech Avenue and at 9.00am on Wednesday's at Alton Close. These sessions are already running. We will also be running a number of other activities which we would love parents to engage in. Parents are welcome to join the "Community Gym Club" on Thursday 15th September starting at 9.00am at Beech Avenue and look out for our "Men Behaving Daddly" day on Saturday 8th October. Parents' views are also extremely important to us and this year we will be holding a number of "Parent Forum Meetings" to help us continue to improve life at Swindon Academy, the first of these forums will be held on 6th October.
2. Our **school photographer** will be in school on Tuesday 20th September at Beech Avenue and on Wednesday 21st September at Alton Close. More details of this will be released via your son / daughter nearer the time.

In addition, there are many occasions when photographs or videos are taken of our students at work to use for display purposes within the school. Sometimes we use these photographs for public relations and will either send them to the local papers, accompanied by a press release, or we may invite a photographer into school.

If you do not wish your son / daughter to have his / her photograph taken or included in any video recording, I would be grateful if you could contact Stephanie Neary, as soon as possible either on 01793 426988 or at stephanie.neary@swindon-academy.org. If we do not hear from you we shall assume that you are happy for this to happen.

3. **Breakfast Club** has started. Everyone is welcome!

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Healthy Schools

4. I would be grateful if you could check with our office staff or your son's / daughter's class teacher that we have up to date contact details for you.
5. **For secondary students only.** On rare occasions it is necessary to close the school earlier than our published times. This is never a decision that is taken lightly and will only be taken for health and safety reasons. In this eventuality we will try to make contact with parents but it may not always be possible. If we dismiss students earlier than expected we will always check that they have somewhere to go and that they are able to gain secure access to 'home'.

If you wish to speak to us before your son / daughter is sent home I would be grateful if you could inform Stephanie Neary either on 01793 426988 or at stephanie.neary@swindon-academy.org so that we can keep an accurate register.

6. **Focus for the Term.** Our focus for this term is 'Growth'. We aim to work on how we ensure that each and every one of us develops to our full potential.

We will work hard on making sure we put 100% effort into everything we do, we will stretch ourselves, the teachers will give good feedback on progress so that we can make sure we work on those areas which we are less good at!

And finally

Thank you again for your continuing support. We will keep you informed of events as we move through the year so please look out for letters at the bottom of your son's / daughter's bag!

Please do not hesitate to raise any comments with me or a member of my senior staff. I look forward to working with you this year.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Shadick
Principal