



The Astley Cooper School

Aspiration, Determination, Integrity

September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the start of another school year. It was lovely seeing all our new Year 7 students and returning Year 12 students today. I am looking forward to seeing all our other students back in school tomorrow – Tuesday 5 September. This is the first new year in our lovely new building which is going to improve the opportunities that all students have to experience new and exciting learning. I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of the remaining demolition work and highlight some key information you will need at the start of this term. For those parents who haven't yet seen the new building, you are welcome to join us for Open Evening on Thursday 12 October.

Building work

There have been some delays to the demolition of the older buildings (Science and English blocks) which will now continue during this half term. This shouldn't impact on the day to day running of the school but means the site doesn't look as clean and fresh as we were expecting. Students will still enter the site through the main gate on St Agnells Lane and walk round the new building to the playground where they line up at the start of the day. The back gate continues to be closed due to the close proximity to the demolition work. I will continue to update you on the building work as the term progresses.

Equipment

- All students are expected to carry their everyday equipment, including PE kit (when required), pencil case, books, etc. **in a bag of suitable size** (students should bring a bag every day). Students should bring a pencil case, which should include the following items:
- 30cm ruler
- 2 HB Pencils
- Pens (black/blue and green)
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator

Uniform

Wearing the full school uniform is an important part of our school identity and prepares students for working life where they will have to dress appropriately for the jobs they have when they leave school. Can you please ensure that your child leaves for school wearing their full school uniform including blazer, school trousers or skirt, shirt, tie, school jumper and black shoes. Some students are still trying to wear hoodies around the school site which is against school rules. Leggings are also not part of the school uniform, either worn on their own or under skirts. Students should not wear nail extensions or false eyelashes to school.



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Morning routines and line up

The gate opens at 8.00am and students are expected at their line up point by 8.30am. Students who arrive at the gate after 8.30am will be marked late (exceptions are made where a parent/carer has made the school aware of a lateness or there is a known issue on the local roads).

All students in years 7-10 line up on their line-up points in form groups and in alphabetical order. Line-up is an opportunity to share whole year group messages, support those without the correct uniform and/or equipment and ensure all students arrive together to assembly or registration.

Year 7-11 students will attend a daily tutor time session after line up where key topics will be delivered and discussed.

All students in years 7-10 will also line up at their line-up points after break and lunch time to ensure an orderly start to their lessons.

Students who are late for this line up receive a detention of 30 minutes at the end of that school day and parents are informed of this via text message. The school day finishes at 3:15 and there are different clubs and activities for students to take part in after school. A list of these clubs and activities will be shared with you later this week.

Behaviour

We launched a revised set of school expectations with the students last year and I want to remind you of them as students return to school. These are the basic standards we expect students to follow while they are in school and to prepare them for being responsible members of the local community. Please talk to your child about these expectations and support us to reinforce them. The expectations are;

1. Follow instructions
2. Engage positively in learning
3. Respect each other and our surroundings
4. Move around the site calmly
5. Be in full uniform at all times

A reminder that students are not allowed to use their mobile phones during the school day. Please discuss this with your children and contact the school office if you need to pass on any important messages during the day. Students who have their phone confiscated during the day have to complete a 30 minute detention at the end of the same day.



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Social Media

We are using Instagram and Facebook to promote the events and activities going on at school and would encourage you to follow the accounts below to see more about what the students get to take part in. Our Instagram page is: **theastleycooperschool** and our Facebook page is: **The Astley Cooper School**.

Thank you for your continuing support of The Astley Cooper School.

Yours sincerely

Sam Orsborne
Headteacher



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