

July 2019

Dear Parents

We are rapidly approaching the end of the summer term and I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we break up for the summer holidays on Friday 19 July at 12:30 pm. Students will have the opportunity of purchasing lunch before being dismissed. I confirm that all buses and taxis will pick students up as normal at 12.30 pm.

I have enclosed a copy of important information for the next academic year. Dates for Parents' Evenings etc will be sent out in the new term.

Our school attendance is 93% this year; however, our target is 96%. Although our attendance is still significantly below the national average, it is an improvement on last year. Student achievement has improved partly because their attendance has improved. In order to ensure we continue this upward trend, please ensure that you avoid booking holidays during term time. I would like to bring to your attention information regarding school attendance and the Law and I would be grateful if you would carefully read the attached statutory guidance.

For parents of years 11 and 13 who finish school after their last exam in the Summer of 2020, please ensure that no holidays are booked before the end of June. This will avoid any exam clashes. The dates of GCSEs and A Levels will be set next term by the exam boards not the Academy. Students must sit an exam at the time and date set by the exam board.

Our updated Uniform Policy starts when we return in September. This is also enclosed and is available to view on the website. Please pay careful attention to it and ensure that your son/daughter is wearing the correct uniform in September to avoid any problems. The old uniform will NOT be allowed next academic year. With the various alternative curriculum events that have taken place this term, it may be that the policy has not been enforced as strictly as usual recently. It will however, be enforced rigidly next term again!

Blazers will become a compulsory item of the Skegness Academy uniform. If you have not already ordered your child's blazer, they can be ordered from Price & Buckland via the following link: www.price-buckland.co.uk Price & Buckland will be at the Skegness Academy on Monday 2 September 2019 from 10.00 am – 2.00 pm should you wish to exchange your child's blazer. **You will however be unable to exchange your child's blazer if the tags have been removed.**

The Skegness Academy Main Reception will be open during the holidays from 9.00 am – 2.00 pm to allow for parents to collect their blazer orders.

The layout of the school day will change slightly in September to allow for our new reading for pleasure initiative, Drop Everything and Read (DEAR). Students will be given 20 minutes of protected time after lunch each day to sit and read for pleasure. Your child should ensure that, along with their essential school equipment they also bring something to read. This should be a hard copy, not on a Kindle or E-reader. The start and end time of school will remain the same.

Your child may have spoken to you about a new approach to homework we are introducing from September called Knowledge Organisers. We are introducing this system to better prepare students for the rigour of GCSE revision and exams in year 11. For most students they will be sitting 20 exams, totalling 30 hours over a four week period and building good learning and revision skills now will reduce this pressure later on. In September, every student will be issued with their own set of Knowledge Organiser pages for each of their subjects. The expectation is that your child will complete one page of work per subject per night following their homework timetable. This might take the form of a Mindmap or notes but your child should spend 30 minutes on each subject. Teachers will offer guidance on how to do this work and will be testing the learning in lessons each week. We will be providing every student with an A4 ring binder and an A4 homework book. Therefore your child will need a school bag large enough to carry these to school every day.

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The Skegness Academy is part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust Group of Academies

The introduction of ParentPay became effective in June and parents have already been sent their log in details. This makes it easier for you to pay for lunches, trips etc by topping your account up on line. We do, however, suggest that students bring enough money in the first week to top-up their accounts (if you have not already set up your online account) to ensure they are able to purchase food and drink at break and lunch.

Our website has details of all the events and activities that have taken place this year, including the year 11 prom, school trips, our school production of Mary Poppins and sports day. Please take some time to visit the website and see what's been going on.

Please also find attached term dates for the next academic year for your information.

I would like to remind you that the Academy re-opens to students on Wednesday 4 September 2019.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your fantastic support this year. It has been a very busy and exciting time for the Academy. I look forward to continuing to build on the many strengths identified by external visits to the school and I am confident that we are on the way towards our goal of becoming an outstanding school.

Have a lovely, safe summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Johnson
Principal

Encl:

Uniform policy
Dates for next term
Mobile phone policy
Statutory Guidance for Attendance



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

Uniform Policy

September 2019

High standards and a positive work ethic are central to a successful future. Our school uniform creates a sense of belonging to our school community and sets the tone for all our work.

Pupils are expected to wear the Academy uniform when travelling to and from the Academy, at all Academy functions and on educational visits unless told otherwise.

The year 7-11 Academy uniform comprises:

- Academy blazer (compulsory)
- Plain white school shirt (not polo shirts)
- Academy tie
- Black trousers or skirt
 - Jeans, cords, chinos and skin-tight trousers are not a suitable alternative to trousers.
 - Jersey/elasticated skirts are not an appropriate school skirt.
 - Skirts should sit no more than 5cm above the knee.
- Black/Silver V-necked jumper with logo (optional)
- Black or grey socks with trousers; white socks, neutral or black tights with skirts.

The Sixth Form uniform comprises:

- Academy blazer (compulsory)
- Plain white school shirt (not polo shirts)
- Academy tie
- Black trousers or skirt
 - Jeans, cords, chinos and skin-tight trousers are not a suitable alternative to trousers.
 - Jersey/elasticated skirts are not an appropriate school skirt.
 - Skirts should sit no more than 5cm above the knee.
- Grey V-necked jumper, in black, with Academy logo (optional)
- Black or grey socks with trousers; white socks, neutral or black tights with skirts

For students who study L3 BTEC Sport (extended diploma) will be given the option to purchase Academy sports kit to wear in place of the uniform above.

Shoes, for all students, should be plain black (no coloured flashes, coloured soles or logos) and suitable for school - flat soled or with no more than half an inch at the front of the heel.

It is advisable that clothing is clearly marked with the student's name in case of loss.

We do not allow students to wear jewellery, except for one stud per ear for those with pierced ears. No other body piercings are allowed. No accessories to nails including acrylics, varnishes, gels, jewels etc.

Hair should be clean and well kept - extreme or unusual styles/ unnatural colours are not acceptable.

Make-up should be subtle, if worn. Any student wearing excessive make-up will be asked to remove it.

The Principal will have the final decision on the definition of extreme/unusual/unnatural hair styles and make-up.



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

Policy on Mobile Phone/Electronic Devices with the Academy

September 2019

For safeguarding reasons, mobile phones/electronic devices must never be used to take electronic recordings, videos or photographs of staff or students in school.

All wires/earphones must be kept out of sight in bags or pockets during lessons.

All mobile phones/electronic devices must be switched off and kept in bags or pockets during lessons, unless the teacher has given specific permission for use in an activity related to learning. This will be entirely at the discretion of the teacher and will not be open for discussion with students.

Any student using a mobile phone/electronic device without permission in lessons will have On-Call sent for.

- On-Call will escort the student to TP1.
- The mobile phone/electronic device will be confiscated, labelled and taken to Main Reception.
- A 50 minute detention will be issued.
- The student will spend the rest of the lesson in TP1.

Any student using a mobile phone/electronic device within school buildings/corridors will be asked to turn it off and put it away. Refusal to follow this instruction will lead to On-Call.

- On-Call will collect the student from his/her next lesson and escort him/her to a TP1.
- The On-Call staff member will confiscate the mobile phone/electronic device, label it and take it to Main Reception.
- A 50 minute detention will be issued.
- The student will then return to his/her lesson.
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Confiscated mobile phones/electronic devices should be collected from main reception at the end of the school day.

If a student refuses to hand over his/her mobile phone/electronic device, parents/carers will be contacted and asked to come into school to confiscate the item. The student will spend the rest of the day in TP1. If parents/carers are unable to come in, the student will be excluded until the following day when parents/carers are able to attend a meeting.

Persistent offenders will have their mobile phone/electronic device confiscated by a member of the Senior Leadership Team until parents come in to discuss the situation. Persistent offenders will be refused the privilege of bringing mobile phones/electronic devices into school.

For safeguarding reasons mobile phones or electronic devices are not to be used inside the academy building at any time



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

Term Dates 2019/2020

	August 2019					September 2019					October 2019						
M			5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28
T			6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29
W			7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30
T		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31
F		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25	
S		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26	
S		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27	

	November 2019					December 2019					January 2020						
M		4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
W		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
S	3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	

	February 2020					March 2020					April 2020						
M		3	10	17	24			2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
T		4	11	18	25			3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
W		5	12	19	26			4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
T		6	13	20	27			5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
F		7	14	21	28			6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	
S	1	8	15	22	29			7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	
S	2	9	16	23			1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	

	May 2020					June 2020					July 2020						
M		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28
W		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25	
S	3	1	17	24	31		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26	



School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Staff Training Days



SKEGNESS ACADEMY

STATUTORY GUIDANCE RELATING TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

*The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 have removed the reference to holidays during term time and now provides that a leave of absence during term time will only be granted where an application is made in advance to the school and the school consider that the leave of absence should be granted due to **exceptional circumstances** relating to that application.*

If your leave of absence has not been authorised by the Academy, you may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice by the Local Authority. This could result in a fine of up to £120 per parent, per child.

Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 places upon parents a duty to ensure their child receives suitable efficient full time education either by regular attendance at school or education otherwise. Section 444 (1)(a) of the same Act states that where a parent of a child who knowingly and without reasonable justification fails to ensure regular attendance of a registered pupil at that school, the parent of the child shall be guilty of an offence against that Section. The Local Authority may, where necessary, institute legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court under this section of the Education Act 1996 against those parents concerned. Alternatively Section 444B of the same Act empowers the Local Education Authority to issue a Fixed Penalty of up to £120.00. It is imperative that the Academy is informed that your child is absent from school each morning of absence.