



KLA/LCU/KMC

Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have been able to have some time to relax during the summer break. As we approach the start of the new term, I just wanted to remind you of the arrangements. We are really looking forward to welcoming all of our learners back to school.

This term we look forward to welcoming a record number of learners to Upton-by-Chester High School. We have the largest Year 7 cohort joining us and a significant number of learners joining us in our Sixth Form. This means that the school has the highest number of learners in its history. It is wonderful that so many people want to be part of our school community.

During this academic year we will continue to work with the Department for Education (DfE) on plans for the school moving forward as part of the School Rebuilding Project (SRB). I expect to be in a position to share more detail on the plans by the start of the Spring Term 2024.

Over the summer we had a great set of results at both A Level and GCSE. We saw learners achieving significant individual success and amazing progress. I will share more details of this when term starts.

Start of Term Arrangements

Term starts for all learners on Wednesday 6th September 2023. Learners are expected to be on site for 8.35am and tutor time will begin at 8.40am.

Year Seven

Learners will gather in the area outside the Learning Hub (Library). Staff will be on site to direct them. Learners will then spend the first two lessons with their form tutors. This will help them to get ready for the academic year.

Years 8,9,10,11,13

Learners can go straight to their tutor rooms and will spend the first two lessons with their tutors. This will give them time to familiarise themselves with their timetables and settle into the new academic year.

If any learners are not sure of the room they are in they will be able to find their Head of Year in the zone they use for break and lunch times.

Year 12

Learners will go straight to the main school hall before joining their tutors.

Contacting School

Home/School communication is important to us at Upton-by-Chester High School. For the majority of queries, you would contact your child's form tutor in the first instance.

In each year group we have a year team made up of a Head of Year and a Pastoral Support Manager. They can be contacted via email or by calling the main school number which is 01244 259 800. Their details are show below:

Year Group	Head of Year	Pastoral Support Manager	Email Contact
7	Mrs J Dey	Mrs A Wynne	Year7@uptonhigh.co.uk
8	Mr S Togher	Mrs S Maxwell	Year8@uptonhigh.co.uk
9	Mr S Wearden	Miss J Hewitt	Year9@uptonhigh.co.uk
10	Mr J Quirk	Miss C Carter	Year10@uptonhigh.co.uk
11	Mr M Jones	Mrs D Bowen	Year11@uptonhigh.co.uk
12	Miss R Simpson	Mrs T Stickels	Year12@uptonhigh.co.uk
13	Mr P Lewis	Mrs T Stickels	Year13@uptonhigh.co.uk

Key Dates for Autumn Term 1

Below are the key dates for the coming half term. The school calendar is currently being updated on the website to reflect these dates and the dates for the rest of the academic year.

Date	Event
Wednesday 6 th September	School re-opens to learners
Wednesday 13 th September	Year 12 Information Evening - Welcome to Sixth Form 5.30-6.30pm
Thursday 14 th September	Year 7 Information Evening Literacy, Learning and Teaching and Pastoral 5.30-6.30pm
Wednesday 20 th September	Duke of Edinburgh Information Evening Year 10 5-5.45pm, Year 12 6-6.45pm
Thursday 21 st September	Awards Evening 6.00-7.30pm
Monday 25 th September	Year 10 Information Evening Welcome to Key Stage 4 5.30-6.30pm
Tuesday 26 th September	Year 11 Information Evening Supporting your child with revision 5.30-6.30pm
Thursday 28 th September	School Open Evening – 5.30-7.30pm
Tuesday 3 rd October	School Photographs (Year 7,9,11, 12 and 13)
Thursday 5 th October	Year 8 Information Evening Maximising Success 5.30-6.30pm
Friday 20 th October	School closes to learners at the normal time of 3.10pm

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete RAAC

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in educational settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete; because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and as a result areas in affected spaces will be vacated.

We wanted to inform you that we **are not** affected by this decision as we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings and therefore they will continue to function as normal. We understand that parents may want to understand more about the support to educational settings to manage RAAC safely. You can read more through the article published by the DfE on the Education Hub via the following link:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/08/31/new-guidance-on-raac-in-education-settings/>

I hope that this offers reassurance.



Learning to shape the future

Headteacher: Mr L Cummins B.Ed (Hons), M.Ed, NPQH

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I will write to you again next week and update you on the first week of term.

Yours faithfully,

L Cummins
Headteacher

