

Furness Academy
Park Drive
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA13 9BB

Telephone Number:
01229 484270
info@furnessacademy.co.uk
www.furnessacademy.co.uk



July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

I do hope this letter finds you and your family very well.

As I write this letter and I begin to reflect on what has been another really busy and productive year; I have been struck in awe at the boundless energy and enthusiasm that is still being shown by the students and staff as we approach the end of term. As a teacher, I am privileged to witness this sort of spirit from the students and staff at our school every day and I need to be careful never to take it for granted. We continue to be enormously proud at how hard our students work to reach their goals and the resilience they need for life developing so well. Most importantly, our students achieve this and still contribute to making Furness Academy a really happy place for learning.

Year 11 students are, hopefully, now relaxing after the long GCSE ordeal. We were all hugely impressed with how they conducted themselves throughout the exam period and I would like to give special thanks and acknowledgement to all of the staff involved for preparing students so brilliantly this year. We are fortunate to have such a great team of dedicated and hardworking staff. We all loved the Year 11 Prom which was held at the Abbey House Hotel. It was such a pleasure and a privilege to spend time in the company of the charming and confident young people that the class of September 2012 have now become.

Staffing

The end of the summer term is always a happy time with the holidays to look forward to, but also a thought-provoking time as familiar faces prepare to depart.

At the end of this term we will be saying good-bye to the following members of staff: Mr Rawlinson from the IT department, Miss Lashmar from the English department, Miss Galvaey from the Science department and Mrs Currie from the Pastoral Team. I know that they all have touched and enriched the lives of many students here at Furness Academy and they all leave us with our best wishes for the future.

Parent Voice Questionnaires

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to complete one of our questionnaires this year, either at one of our many parents' evenings or those of you who have contributed online at 'Parent View'. I value your contributions greatly and we analyse the results following each collection to ensure that we continue to build upon the positives, but also to ensure we look carefully into any concerns that are raised. We are particularly proud that 99% of parents and carers have indicated that they would recommend our school to others and it is, of course, my aim to make that 100% as fast as we can.

I would like to also take this opportunity to tell you about the end of term and the start of the next academic year's arrangements.

Final Day Arrangements

The academy will close to students for the summer holiday on **Thursday 20 July 2017**. Students will attend periods 1–4, and will be dismissed at **12:40pm**. Should your child be entitled to a free school meal, arrangements will be in place to order a sandwich for collection just after 12:40pm. A packed lunch will be available for students who order one. Students will be expected to attend in normal school uniform.

Arrangements for the start of the academic year 2017-2018

Autumn term starts for students on **Wednesday 6 September 2017**. New students in year 7, plus selected senior prefects, should be in the academy for **8:30am** where they will be met by staff. After a brief assembly they will go to their form tutor rooms. Existing academy students (years 8 - 11) will start promptly at **9:50am**; they should go straight to their form tutor room to be registered.



Term dates

Term dates for 2017-2018, enrichment Wednesday dates and timings of the school day are listed on the reverse of this letter.

Finally, it has been my pleasure to be part of this thriving school community for a second year. We are in your debt and I would like to express my thanks to all parents and carers who have trusted us, supported us, tried to work with us, and those who continue to encourage us.

Have a great summer break.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'S.P. Laheney', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr S P Laheney
Headteacher

Duration of the School Day

| School Day | | Enrichment Wednesday |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 8.40am - 9.00am | Registration | 8.40am - 9.00am |
| 9.00am – 9.50am | Period 1 | 9.00am - 9.40am |
| 9.50am – 10.40am | Period 2 | 9.40am - 10.20am |
| 10.40am – 11.00am | Break | 10.20am - 10.40am |
| 11.00am – 11.50am | Period 3 | 10.40am - 11.20am |
| 11.50am – 12.40pm | Period 4 | 11.20am - 12.00pm |
| 12.40pm – 1.30pm | Lunch | 12.00pm - 12.50pm |
| 1.30pm – 2.20pm | Period 5 | 12.50pm - 1.30pm |
| 2.20pm – 3.10pm | Period 6 | 1.30pm - 2.10pm |
| From 3.10pm | Period 7 | From 2.10pm |

Enrichment Wednesday Dates

On every second Wednesday lessons will be timetabled as 40 minute sessions. This enables the school day to finish at 2.10pm for staff training. These fall on the following dates:

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 27/09/17 | 11/10/17 | 01/11/17 | 15/11/17 | 29/11/17 |
| 13/12/17 | 10/01/18 | 24/01/18 | 07/02/18 | 28/02/18 |
| 14/03/18 | 28/03/18 | 25/04/18 | 09/05/18 | 23/05/18 |
| 13/06/18 | 27/06/18 | 11/07/18 | | |

Term Dates 2017 – 2018

| | | |
|--------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Autumn Term | Term Begins | Wednesday 6 September |
| | Half Term | Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October |
| | Term Ends | Thursday 21 December |
| Spring Term | Term Begins | Monday 8 January |
| | Half Term | Monday 12 – Friday 16 February |
| | Term Ends | Thursday 29 March |
| Summer Term | Term Begins | Monday 16 April |
| Bank Holiday | | Monday 7 May |
| | Half Term | Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June |
| | Term Ends | Friday 20 July |