



Supported by the Drapers'
Company of London

THE THOMAS ADAMS SCHOOL, WEM

incorporating

**THOMAS ADAMS SIXTH FORM
ADAMS HOUSE (BOARDING)**

Headteacher: Mark Cooper BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteachers: Jenni Whitfield BA (Joint Hons), Tom McAleavy BA (Hons)



Dear Parents/carers,

As we approach the end of another half term, I would again like to thank everyone for your continued support. It has been a busy time in the last few weeks in school preparing Years 11 and 13 for their respective exams.

Extra-curricular activities are in full swing, and students have made many notable achievements in sport fixtures, practical exams, and charity events, whilst also attending many trips and visits. For further information and updates on the school please follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

As a school, we are committed to helping all pupils meet our expectations and high standards by using praise and rewards. This can range from verbal congratulations and house points to opportunities to partake in rewards trips or activities. Almost all pupils respond well to this and behave in a positive manner during their time at school. It is amazing that already this academic year staff have given out 256,819 House Points in total!

Punctuality

Punctuality to school and lessons is absolutely essential to success in school and we have communicated this with pupils this week. We shared the following important facts:

- Late in a morning – 12 minutes = 1.5 weeks off / 24 minutes = 3 weeks off.
- Late to each lesson – 5 minutes = 3 weeks off / 10 minutes = 6 weeks off (a whole half term).

Even if a child maintains 100% attendance but is often late to school the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) will be made aware.

Therefore, to focus on improving punctuality to school in the morning, from the 5th of June, all gates on the site will be locked at 8.45am. The only access points will be for Sixth Form students via the Noble Street entrance and lower school pupils will only be able to gain access via the main school gates on Lowe Hill. If they are late, their arrival time will be recorded, and they will be expected to attend a breaktime detention on that day.

Arriving promptly to lessons is also important to maximise learning, if pupils are late to three or more lessons in a week, then they will receive a lunchtime detention. As explained in previous letters, if these detentions are not attended first time, then this will be escalated quickly and may even result in suspension from school for a fixed period of time.

Attendance

Our plans for attendance and punctuality is a positive measure to ensure the pupils develop good habits for their future working lives, while also maximising their potential by being in school and in lessons.

Any pupil whose attendance falls below 95% will be monitored very closely. I understand that there may be genuine reasons for absence, but we do need to try and develop the children's resilience and would expect children to attend school if they have a minor childhood illness that can be treated with over-the-counter medication from a pharmacist, following their advice and guidance.

We would also ask that any medical appointments are booked out of school hours, or as near to the start or end of the day as possible. This will ensure that the amount of school time missed is kept to a minimum. Finally, please keep us informed of all absence by providing medical letters or appointment information at attendance@thomasadams.net

Uniform

From the 5th of June, we will be continuing to address uniform issues that arise. There has been a huge improvement in pupils wearing the uniform correctly and we thank you for your support with this. Please take some time to read the policy again and ensure that your child(ren) has the correct uniform for when we return. We will be taking pupil out of circulation at lunchtimes if they are wearing incorrect uniform until the matter is resolved.

If the good weather continues after half term, pupils will not be expected to wear their blazers at all times. However, blazers cannot be replaced with any other garment and shirts must be tucked in and worn with a tie at all times.



Lowe Hill, Wem, Shropshire SY4 5UB Telephone: 01939 237000
e-mail: enquiries@thomasadams.net website: www.thomasadams.net

Excellence in education since 1650

The Thomas Adams School is part of The 3-18 Education Trust. Company Number 08064698. Registered Address: Longden Road, Shrewsbury, SY3 9EE

Please note that only outdoor coats are permitted as part of the uniform (although these are not allowed to be worn inside the building). Therefore, any hoodies or other non-uniform garments must not be brought into school and may be confiscated if seen.

Any piercings which are not in the ears will not be allowed, nor will long nails as both of these pose a health and safety risk in school. Trainers are also unacceptable unless the child has a current medical note to support this. Pupils will be asked to remove any inappropriate piercings or nails. Please find a link to the policy below.

<https://www.thomasadams.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/uniform-policy-August-2022.pdf>

Sixth form update

Our Year 13 Leavers Ball will be on Tuesday 27th June at the Albright Hussey Hotel. Start time is 7.00pm and the dress code will be smart. This is a lovely way to end to their time at Thomas Adams Sixth Form and the opportunity to celebrate their successes.

Students in Year 12 are currently receiving guidance on their next steps in tailored form tutor sessions, looking at University apprenticeship and gap years. All Year 12s have access to a range of resources on their year group teams page. Students will also receive one-to-one guidance through form time mentoring to aid them in understanding their next steps.

There are also several key dates over the coming half term that Year 12 need to look out for:

Friday 23rd June- Thursday 29th June- 6th Form Mock exam week- students will sit mock examinations that will be significant contributors to their UCAS predicted grade. The UCAS prediction is the grade sent by the 6th form to universities, this grade will be a fair reflection of performance across Year 12, inclusive of these mock exams. The grade produced will be an enabling grade, aimed at being realistic but allowing students to access their desired courses.

These exams are also crucial indicators of students progression into Year 13.

Friday June 30th is our 6th Form Applicant open day- Year 12 will not be in college this day and will be encouraged to use the time to conduct research into their next steps and futures.

Exams update

Aligned with the information issued in the last Year 11/13 letter, students that are participating in any examinations after the May half-term are to report directly to the Stanier Hall Car Park at 8.50am for morning sessions and 12.50pm for afternoon sessions.

The Curriculum “Big Picture”

We have continued to develop our “curriculum organisation” section of our school website. Please take the time to visit (link below) to access key information about your child’s education such as curriculum maps that outline content that is taught, our approaches to embed reading into lessons, how feedback is provided and much more.

<https://www.thomasadams.net/curriculum-organisation/>

Next Half term - Key events

Olympic days (5th and 6th July)

We are fast approaching Year 10 and Year 12 Work experience which will take place between 17th and 21st July. If your child has yet to find a placement, we would recommend they spend some time over half term finding one as this is a great opportunity for students to learn about the world of work. Once they have found a placement, can you please return the forms to school so we can check the Health and Safety arrangements.

Applicant Open Day

Friday 30th June is our 6th Form Applicant Open Day. This is another vital opportunity for students who are looking to attend Thomas Adams 6th form to experience their preferred A Levels, meet the staff and receive vital transition work to prepare them for September. All students can confirm their place by logging in to their application profile and selecting their Open day choices. The day begins at 8.45 in the Stanier Hall, a free lunch is provided for all those attending. If you have any questions, please email Corrina Cadman ccadman@thomasadams.net, late applications are still being accepted.

Move Up Days

On the 28th June we will be hosting our move up day for Year 6 pupils who are coming from our smaller feeder primary schools. On the 4th July we will be hosting our main move up day for all our new Year 6 pupils who will be starting with us in September 2023.

We continue to be aware of the high cost of living and the challenge for many families and I would encourage any family that needs advice or support to reach out to us for help with supporting your child with school items.

Finally, I hope you manage to have a happy and restful Whitsun break. Thank you again for your continued support and we look forward to seeing all the pupils back in school on the 5th June 2023.

Yours sincerely

Mark Cooper, Headteacher