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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 quickly approach the end of another busy, normal year, I must say how impressed I am with the resilience of the students and again, a huge thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support.

We are currently reviewing how homework is set and monitored in school. Pupils will be given planners again in September to record all work set and we encourage parents/carers to check and sign this weekly as Form Tutors will be checking them regularly. There will also be open access to a computer room every lunchtime where pupils can complete any work in school if there are barriers at home; this will be supervised by staff.

Timings of the day and rationale

After much reflection and review, we have decided that we are going to extend lunchtime by 5 minutes. An extended lunch will allow us to provide a more effective and efficient lunch service and will also enable us to continue offering an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities.

I am sure it will feel a little different to start with in September but am equally sure that everyone will soon get used to it. We have also moved form time back to the start of the day, to allow tutors to meet their form group, set the tone for the day and complete important learning and administration.

Please see below the new timings:

8.40 - 8.55 Form time
9.00 --10.00 Lesson one
10.05 - 11.05 Lesson two
11.05 - 11.20 Break time
11.25- 12.25 Lesson three
12.30 - 1.30 Lesson Four
1.30 - 2.15 Lunch time
2.20 - 3.20 Lesson Five

We have shared the above information with the bus company and, at present, they do not feel they need to change the pick-up times. We will monitor this from September and may make changes if we feel they are required.

Picking up/Dropping off and Parking in areas surrounding the school

May I please ask all parents/carers and Sixth form students to be considerate of our neighbours when picking up/dropping off or parking close to the school, in particular areas around Noble Street, Rose Marie Court, and Bailey Close.

Could I also ask that parents refrain from using the school Bus Lane for morning drop off as this area is already busy with heavy bus traffic. I would appreciate it if you could drop off on Pym's Road and then pupils can walk into school.

Start of Next term

We have PD (Professional Development) days on Monday 4th September and Tuesday 5th September. All pupils start back to school at 8.45am on Wednesday 6th September.



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6th Form Update

Term starts for Year 12 and 13 on the 6th of September, with a form time session and briefing taking place from 8.45 onwards, details will be posted on students' Teams pages and communicated home via Arbor.

Within the first 3 weeks after we return, several students will be re-sitting June examinations, these students need to ensure they are well prepared for these examinations and work over the summer in order to do so. Students have been reminded to engage in active research over the summer regarding their futures after 6th form - advice and guidance will be readily available when they return and begin applications.

Year 13 is a busy but exciting time, and we look forward to seeing what the future holds!

Results days reminder

'A' Level results can be collected from the Stanier Hall from 9am on Thursday 17th August 2023. Year 12 Students who sat Food, Sport or Health and Social Care Exams can pick up results at the same time as A' Level students.

GCSE results can be collected from the Stanier Hall from 9am on Thursday 24th August 2023. Year 10 students that sat external exams can collect their results at 10am.

'A' Level and GCSE results can be emailed out to students. Email requests must be made to the exams officer in advance of results day, but due to GDPR, these requests must come directly from students' own email accounts and not from parents. Please contact Rebecca Kinnon using both email addresses:- rlk@thomasadams.net and rebecca.kinnon@tas.318education.co.uk

Reading at Thomas Adams

We are always trying to promote the importance of reading for pleasure and its impact on academic progress. We expect all students to have a reading book with them as part of their basic equipment for school and have just launched our literacy page on our school website that provides an overview of what we are doing to promote literacy along with useful tips on how parents / carers can support their children

(<https://www.thomasadams.net/literacy/>)

Uniform

We understand the cost implications of buying uniform. Therefore, please refer to the following link before making purchases to ensure that you do not buy items that will not be allowed. On the link, you will find our uniform policy and how to access support if you have issues with this.

<https://bit.ly/3XUt1QI>

Furthermore, if you have any uniform that is no longer required, we would gratefully receive any donations so that we can offer a 'pre-loved' provision.

Please be aware that hooded tops, tech fleeces or cardigans must not be worn as a substitute for an outdoor coat or school neck jumper (which is optional). School shoes for all pupils should be plain black leather or leather-like material with no motifs. Boots, trainers and pumps are unacceptable.

Hair must be worn appropriately to reflect a serious learning environment. "Exaggerated" hairstyles and colours which are not natural are not acceptable. Any all over short hair must not be below a grade 2 and any lines cut into the style are also not acceptable.

Due to both practicality and health and safety reasons, pupils' nails should not be excessively long. Nails should end just above the end of the finger. Any pupil with excessively impractical nails will be asked to remove these (if false) or cut them to a reasonable length. As acrylic nails are expensive, we advise that, if you allow your child to have these, they do not extend beyond the end of your child's finger to avoid having to take these off or cut them.

Equipment

It is important that pupils arrive to school each day equipped for their learning. Below is a list of items they will need each day, please ensure that your child(ren) has access to the following:

- **Essential:** pencil case, several blue or black pens, green pen, pencils, rubber, ruler, scientific calculator, glue stick, reading book, school planner.
- **Optional:** coloured pencils, highlighter pens.
- **Not Allowed:** Blu-Tac, Tippex, aerosol sprays, fizzy drinks.

Safeguarding over the summer

Should you or your child need to contact school, please use tellus@tas.318education.co.uk - this email will only be monitored periodically, so please do not expect an immediate reply. Therefore, if you are concerned that someone may be in danger, please contact the Shropshire Safeguarding Team on 0345 678 9021. You can also contact 111 for health issues or 101 for the police. Finally, you can find help and guidance by following this link to an information page on our website, scroll to the bottom of the page to the section entitled 'Information for External Support Services available to Children, Parents and Families': <https://thomasadams.net/key-information/>

New Catering Provider

The school continues to be cashless, so please ensure that your ParentPay account is up to date with the correct details.

The start of the new year brings along a new school caterer. Academy Catering were successful in winning the contract and are already working with us to ensure a smooth transition over the coming months. We will continue to insist on the highest standard of food for our school community and will be sending more information out to you on this during the next few weeks.

New email addresses

We are currently migrating our IT systems to a new domain server which will mean all our staff and students will have new e-mail addresses. The current e-mail addresses that you have will be redirected to the new ones, so please look out for our new e-mails which will end in: -

tas.318education.co.uk

If you need to make contact with the school please now use contactus@tas.318education.co.uk rather than enquiries@thomasadams.net

The website will be updated over the summer with all the key contacts.

Attendance

Before returning in September, we would appreciate it if you could discuss attendance with your child(ren) and talk about the importance of being in lessons every day and on time. Attendance and punctuality are vital and will help your child(ren) make good progress in Thomas Adams. We 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. We also ask that hard copies of appointments, hospital letters etc. are provided to the Attendance Team so that this absence can be authorised. Finally, if your child is too ill to attend school, then you must inform the Attendance Team on each day of the absence. If your child(ren) have absence below 94% then medical evidence must be provided for every absence for us to authorise this. If you feel that you need help and guidance on any matters relating to attendance, please do not hesitate to contact us by calling 01939 237000, or by emailing attendance@tas.318education.co.uk

We are happy to support you with any concerns you may have.

Finally, please continue to follow the school on Facebook and Instagram:

<https://www.facebook.com/ThomasAdamsWem>

<https://www.instagram.com/thomasadamswem/>

Wishing you all a happy summer holiday with hopefully some nice weather. Again, many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mark Cooper
Headteacher