



August 2025

Dear Parents & Carers

As we draw toward the end of the summer holiday, I am writing to you with some reminders for the new Academic Year.

Firstly, well done to our Year 11 and Year 13 students! They achieved some excellent results and we look forward to hearing about their progress in the next stages of their lives. As a school, we are delighted that the results again demonstrate an upward trajectory of improvement in student outcomes. As we approach the new Academic Year, these results serve a reminder of our purpose in working together to ensure that all students achieve their best whilst upholding our values of Respect, Pride and Belief.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students, as well as Year 12 students to our new Sixth Form Centre. Staff have been busy preparing lessons, organising classrooms and outside spaces for students' return in September. Alongside the new students, we also look forward to welcoming our new staff to the Academy.

#### Return to School

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> & Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Staff training (no students in school).
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Years 7, 11 and 12 return only (arrive by 8.30am). Year 7 and Year 12 students to enter via reception.
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September - All students (arrive by 8.30am).

A reminder that all students are expected to be in school by 8.30am ready for Line Up/Learning Period 1 which commences at 8.35am. Breakfast Club is available from 8am in The Galley and students (unless attending a club/activity), should not be onsite before this time. The school day finishes at 3.05pm. A reminder that parents dropping off and picking up students should do so using the school car park, adjacent to the school site. For the safety of both students and staff, the vehicle gate will not be open when students are arriving to and leaving school.

All students should arrive to school ready to learn, in the correct uniform and with the necessary equipment for the day. Our uniform and equipment details can be found on our website at [Uniform, The Victory Academy](#). We request your support in ensuring that all students start the Academic Year wearing correct uniform. Students arriving to school wearing incorrect uniform will be asked to correct it on the day. Your support in ensuring students meet our general appearance expectations which can be found using the link above would also be appreciated. I particularly draw your attention to our expectations regarding natural hair colour, that the only visible piercings should be a single stud in the lobe and that students should not be wearing false eyelashes or false/polished nails. Should you have any issues with ensuring your child has the correct uniform or in meeting our general expectations, please contact the Academy in advance of the start of the new term.



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The Victory Academy is a member of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, whose registered address is Park Crescent, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6NR. A company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 7359755



### Communication

At The Victory Academy, we value our partnership with parents/carers. We know that students benefit from a positive relationship between school and home. Therefore, please ensure you keep us informed of any phone number, email or address changes so we can keep in touch with you. Ideally, each child should have a minimum of three emergency contacts. Please confirm any changes via email and send to [office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk)

There will be times when parents/carers have questions and concerns they wish to raise with us and we want to ensure we work with you to resolve these as quickly and effectively as possible.

The most effective ways to contact the Academy are by:

- **Phone:** 0333 360 2140 (Please leave a voice message if your call cannot be answered. Staff will do their very best to return your call as soon as they can.)
- **Email:** [office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk)

There are times in the day when the phone lines are busier (mornings and lunch times) so, at these times, you might find it easier to email instead. In the first instance, unless there is a member of staff you have already been working with, any questions or concerns will be passed to your child's Tutor, Head of Year or the relevant subject department. As a first step, they will make contact to confirm the nature of your question or concern and discuss any follow up that is needed. We are keen to meet with parents in person where questions and concerns remain. However, due to staff teaching and other commitments, staff cannot always be readily available to meet if parents/carers come directly to reception. If you would like to meet with a member of staff, it is best to contact the Academy in advance to arrange a mutually convenient time.

### Useful Contacts

For the Academic Year ahead, the following contacts will be useful for you to be aware of:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Hope
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs Stephens
- Attendance Improvement Manager (for any queries related to student absence) - Miss Reeve
- Family Liaison Officer – Ms Fill
- Student Services Manager (including support with creating and updating Medical Plans) - Mr Miller
- Deputy Student Services Manager – Mrs Miles
- Head of Year 7 - Mrs Lacey
- Head of Year 8 - Mrs Bamidele
- Head of Year 9 – Mr McAllister
- Head of Year 10 - Miss Jordan & Mrs Berry
- Head of Year 11 - Miss Alatise
- Head of Year 12 & 13 - Mr Cass



### **Arbor**

If you haven't yet done so, please now download the Arbor app. This is now our only app for communication, behaviour updates, payments and meal credit. You may wish to refer to our previous communications about our switch to Arbor here:

[new communications platform - arbor 25 06 25.pdf](#)

[arbor update - behaviour information 07 07 25.pdf](#)

If you have any questions or concerns about accessing the app, please do not hesitate to contact us at [office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk), and our staff will be happy to assist.

### **School Meals**

Our catering provider from September will be Innovate who are aligned with the Thinking Schools Academy Trust's vision to create a positive food culture and help change the eating habits of young people. For more details on Innovate, please refer to our previous communications here:

[catering payments 16 06 25.pdf](#)

[update on school meal prices 15 07 25.pdf](#)

### **Social Media**

If you don't already, please follow us on our social media pages (Facebook, X and Instagram) and keep an eye on our website. We post good news stories and communications frequently on these platforms.

I look forward to welcoming our students back to school and thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure students are happy and successful.

Yours sincerely

Mr O Owen  
**Headteacher**