

Welland Park Academy Parent Booklet

A Guide to Welland Park Academy



Welcome to Welland Park Academy

A warm welcome, and thank you for taking the time to find out about Welland Park Academy and what we stand for. As Principal, it is both a privilege and a joy to lead such a vibrant school community and to support our students on their educational journey.

Our school motto, “Learning for Life”, lies at the heart of everything we do. It reflects our belief that education is not simply about examination results, but about developing the whole child. We want every student to unlock their full potential, grow in confidence, and leave us with both outstanding outcomes and the skills to thrive in life beyond school.

One of the things that makes Welland Park special is its family feel. We are a school where every child is known and valued as an individual, and where students and staff alike feel safe, happy and proud to belong. Our ethos is underpinned by our core values – Perseverance, Achievement, Respect and Kindness – the golden threads that run through daily life at the Academy. These values guide the way our young people learn, support one another and engage with the wider world.

We are proud of our strong academic outcomes, which sit consistently above national averages, but we also know that education extends far beyond the classroom. Our broad and balanced curriculum is complemented by a rich array of opportunities – from school productions, concerts and sporting fixtures, to trips and visits across the UK and beyond. Through these experiences, we aim to inspire students to discover their passions, develop resilience, and aspire to be the very best version of themselves.

At the heart of our work is a culture of high expectations, care and support. Our dedicated pastoral team, including mentors and counsellors, ensures that every child feels safe, supported and ready to learn. Alongside this, we provide excellent careers education and guidance, preparing students for a wide range of future pathways – whether university, apprenticeships or the workplace.

We firmly believe that children achieve most when school and home work in partnership. The relationship between Parent, Student and Teacher is essential to success, and we value open communication with families at every stage of a child’s journey with us. Welland Park Academy is more than just a school – it is a community where learning, aspiration and care go hand in hand. Together, we will ensure your child is inspired, supported and prepared for life beyond the Academy.

Mr Pete Leatherland
Principal

Care and Guidance

If they are to achieve their full potential, students at Welland Park Academy must feel happy, confident and above all safe.

The Academy is a place where differences are celebrated and we recognise that learning is different for everyone. We have an inclusive approach to our lessons which helps make sure that no one is left behind and that each one of our students gets the help they need to move on and make progress. We have an enviable reputation for supporting students with additional needs.

At the centre of our pastoral care for our children is the tutor. This is the teacher who they meet every day at the start of the day and this is the person who is responsible for making sure that their learning is developing well and that their experience at school is a positive one. This is also one of the people who parents and carers should make contact with when they need to speak to someone at school.

We believe that what works best is working together. Relationships with students are central to that and so are relationships with parents. Our aim is that communication is strong between the school, the family and the student so that everyone knows what's happening and why. We'll never *always* get it right so when we don't, we always ask you to talk to us.

Curriculum

At Welland Park Academy, we offer a broad and balanced curriculum to suit the needs of all students.

During Key Stage 3 students in Years 7 to 9 will receive a solid grounding in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science, alongside a wide range of foundation subjects: History, Geography, Religious Studies, Citizenship, MFL - French or German, Computing, Drama, Music, PE, Art and Design.

At Key Stage 4, students are offered an extensive range of options for GCSE and alternative qualifications with clear pathways to A Levels, apprenticeships and beyond. Options for Key Stage 4 include: Media Studies, Creative iMedia, MFL, Humanities, Business Studies, Design Technology, Music, Drama, Statistics and PE.

We want our students to be tolerant of differences and respectful of each other and themselves. We have an extensive citizenship curriculum planned to enable students to know about the wider world and have opportunities to discuss, learn and discover how to be healthy, safe and access the right career and future pathways into education, employment and training.

All of this is underpinned by a love of learning through problem solving, creativity and imagination. We know we need to prepare our children to cope with technologies and concepts not even invented yet...

Extra-curricular

Our curriculum is much more than in classroom learning. We have a wide and imaginative extra-curricular offer which includes trips and visits with destinations as diverse as Harry Potter World, CERN, the Opal Coast, the Rhineland and Skiing to name but a few.

We have an excellent record for sporting excellence as well as performing arts and audiences have been wowed by our recent production of 'Beauty and the Beast' and by our concerts, all hosted in Market Harborough's largest auditorium seated area. Whether before school at breakfast club; at lunch times with sports teams, SEND club and subject clubs or after school with matches and music groups, there are endless opportunities for our children to get that something extra.

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The Welland Park Way

Welland Park prides itself on being like a family. Therefore, we have four core values at its heart, similar to those in any family. We want our students to persevere when things are tough, we want our students to achieve, we want our students to respect themselves and others and finally we want our students to show kindness in whatever they do.

Students in KS3 undertake a student leadership and character education programme, called the Welland Park Way, which is based around our core values. These activities are completed in school, during extra-curricular activities or outside of school. Students will develop skills, qualities and experiences that are essential for their future.

Students in KS4 are expected and encouraged to demonstrate these core values in their daily lives through their revision, extracurricular activities and preparation for their GCSE examinations and life beyond WPA.

At Welland Park Academy, as part of the ***Welland Park Way***, we have **4 core values at the heart of our family**:

- Perseverance
- Achieve
- Respect
- Kindness

Throughout the programme students will develop these skills and work their way through the passport at different levels:

- Bronze
- Silver
- Gold

Upon completing each step, students will be awarded a certificate matching each step – bronze, silver and gold. Each step will also have a focus on ensuring students have good attendance, excellent behaviour and a positive attitude to learning. Once a student has completed gold, they will receive a special WPA lapel badge marking their achievement.

Key Information

KS3 students arrive and depart through the front of school, KS4 via the back gate, next to the park. The gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.40am.

Any student arriving after this time will be late, resulting in a detention.

TIMES OF THE DAY	
Breakfast Club (optional)	8.00 – 8.30
Registration	8.45—9.05
Period 1	9.05—10.05
Period 2	10.05 – 11.05
Break	11.05 —11.30
Period 3	11.30 – 12.30
Period 4	12.30 – 13.30
Lunch	13.30—14.15
Period 5	14.15 – 15.15
Dismissal Time	15.15 – 15.20

UNIFORM

- Grey school blazer with school logo
- Plain black smart trousers or Black KNEE LENGTH pleated skirt; or Black tailored knee length shorts. Denim, cargo, corduroy, sports and slim fit shorts are not permitted.
- White shirt or blouse (long or short sleeved, no logo) with collar suitable to wear with school tie
- Regular or clip on school tie (Maroon Year 7-9, Silver Year 10-11)
- All black footwear (no coloured logos, or boots are allowed)
- Black socks or tights – no logos

All clothes should be worn smartly; shirts tucked in and shoes kept clean. Denim of any kind is not considered suitable for School. Hoodies should not be worn. Every item should be clearly marked with the owner's name. Orders for Welland Park Academy uniform should be placed on line directly with our uniform supplier. Their website can be accessed either through the Welland Park website or directly at www.uniform-direct.com.

WELLAND PARK ACADEMY PE KIT

- Trainers, non-marking soles- Indoor Wear
- Football boots- Outdoor Wear
- White Socks- Indoor Wear
- Red games socks- Outdoor Wear
- Black shorts or skort
- Tracksuit Bottoms or leggings - Optional Item
- Red/black t-shirt with panels
- Red/Black Reversible Sports shirt with panels and piping
- Red/black microfleece with piping
- Gum shield/shin pads Compulsory for hockey, football and rugby
- Branded PE kit is not permitted

For further details, please refer to the Academy Uniform Policy on our website

Learning for Life

TROUSERS

Trousers are to be tailored and of a traditional style, made of standard school trouser fabric. The following are not allowed; jeans, denim trousers, trousers with rivets, trousers with low waist, trousers which are tight on the legs, leggings, trousers which are not full length, trousers which follow a current trend, cords, culottes, ski pants, trousers with large buckles, frills or fashion accessories.

SKIRTS

Black KNEE LENGTH pleated skirt.

Stitched down pleated skirt in black. Skirts must be knee length and match the style that can be purchased on the website.

SHIRTS/BLOUSES

Shirts and blouses are to be plain white with no logos, frills or decoration. Polo shirts are not allowed. Shirts and blouses are to be worn tucked in with no visible T-shirts underneath and sleeves rolled down (if long sleeved). Blouses must be of a suitable style to be worn with the school tie.

COATS

An additional coat will be needed according to the weather. Coats must not be worn in school during lessons.

FOOTWEAR (NO BOOTS)

These must be plain, low-heeled, all-black footwear which cover the instep of the foot and suitable for school. Laces are to be black.

BLAZERS

Blazers are to be worn at all times around the Academy. They are not to be substituted by a jumper. Coats hoodies or jackets should not be worn under blazers.

JEWELLERY

The school rules on jewellery are as follows:

- Up to two piercings in each ear are allowed. Studs are permitted; dangly or hooped earrings, bars and stretchers are not to be worn.
- A sensible wrist watch may be worn, please note Smart Watches are not allowed.
- Students will be advised that jewellery is their personal responsibility and not that of the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and science experiments.

MAKE UP

The school rules on makeup and cosmetics are as follows:

- Only natural-looking makeup is permitted
- False nails and nail extensions are not permitted
- Only clear nail varnish may be worn
- Temporary tattoos are not permitted

Students wearing excessive makeup will be required to remove it. Failure to comply with uniform expectations will result in a loss of social time until expectations are met

HAIR COLOUR AND STYLES

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on whether a student's hairstyle, hair colour or headwear is inappropriate for the school environment; however, the school will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any student by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual student's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Students with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured dyed hair
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours
- Excessive hair accessories
- Headwear featuring inappropriate words or image.
- Graffiti, shaved patterns and lines.

Attendance and Punctuality

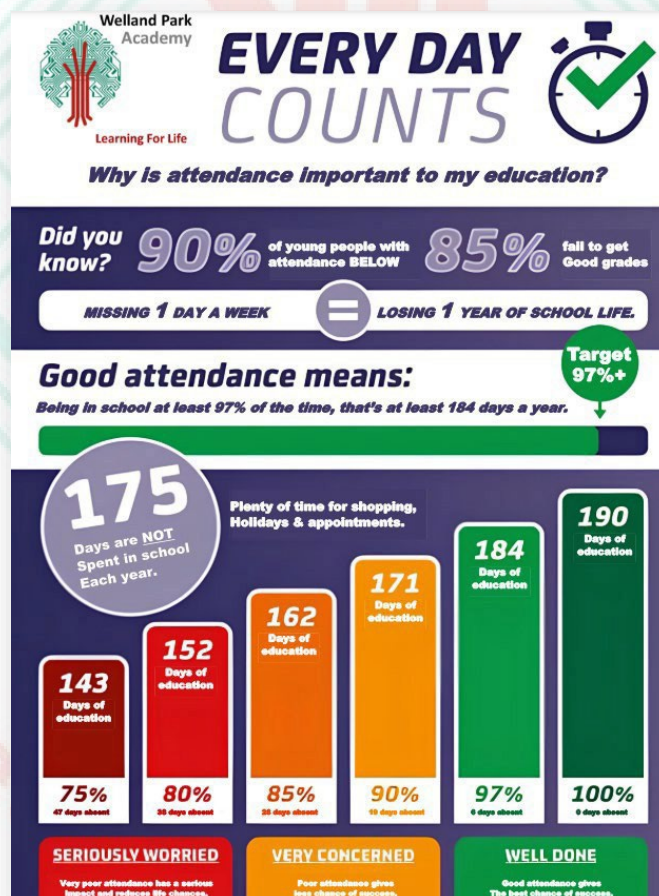
In the event your child is going to be absent from school due to illness you need to inform the school on **each day** of their absence before 9am.

If your child has a bout of sickness or diarrhoea, we ask you to leave 24 hours before allowing the student to return to school.

The preferred way to report an absence is via the Edulink One App- login details will be provided for this.

We consider good attendance to be **97% and above**. If you need support or guidance on how to improve your child's attendance, please get in touch.

For any questions regarding attendance please contact your child's Head of Year or Pastoral Support Manager.



Behaviour and Rewards

At Welland Park Academy, we recognise that the most effective teaching and learning will only take place in an atmosphere where there is a clear understanding of what is acceptable behaviour.

Positive discipline is based on 3 simple ideas:

- Students want to be rewarded for their effort
- Students need clear guidelines in terms of what constitutes acceptable behaviour
- Consistency is crucial so that everyone knows where they stand, how the school operates, and how it responds to different situations

The Positive Behaviour Policy has a series of non-negotiables regarding behaviour in the classroom at its core. These are:

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Learning Environment Non-Negotiables

Teachers Expect:

- On time for school/form/lessons in full uniform
- Coats off and bags under desks
- Pencil case out on the desk
- Silence when teachers are taking the register (appropriate answers)
- Follow the behaviour policy
 - no talking over teachers or others
 - no opting out - have a 'can do' attitude
 - completing all work/homework to the best of a students' ability
 - follow instructions the first time
- No phones out unless instructed
- Stand behind chairs to be dismissed in silence at the end of a lesson

- Prepared for lessons with correct equipment:
 - Pencil case
 - Black or blue pen
 - Green pen
 - Pencil
 - Ruler
 - Scientific calculator
 - Pair of compasses
 - Protractor
 - Eraser
 - Reading book
 - Data card
 - PE Kit (when needed)

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We do understand that from time to time, some students will not always respond to positive discipline. Therefore, we have a sanctions system within the school to complement the rewards. These are:

- Students who fail to follow the academy non-negotiables will receive a C1 (Consequence Point). Any Consequence points received will count against their behaviour points across the year. We will inform the students which expectation has not been met, and it will be their responsibility to provide you with the context of that behaviour point.
- The next step is C2, which will result in the student needing to complete a detention with that member of staff.
- A C3 is issued when a student is either removed from a lesson due to their poor behaviour, or for a one-hour afterschool Department Detention – these are usually issued for repeated poor behaviour. All C3s will result in an afterschool detention for one-hour; this will be communicated to both the student and home.

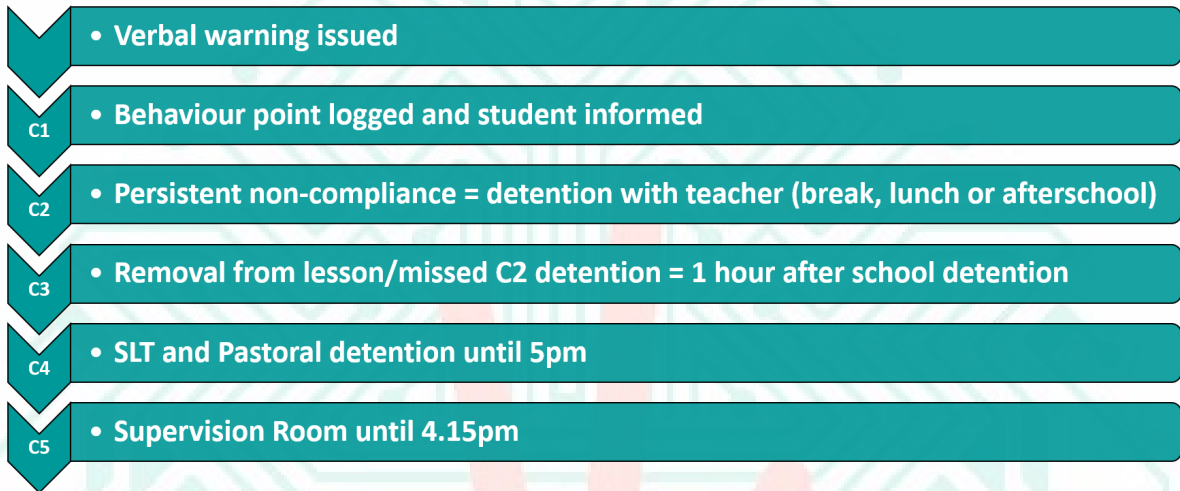
If a student accrues too many behaviour points within a week or a half term, this will automatically trigger a school sanction such as report card, being unable to access the individual rewards programme, or a detention.

We appreciate your ongoing support and commitment to your child's education and have noticed an increasing volume of inquiries and discussion regarding behaviour points from our parents. Whilst we value this engagement, we kindly request that, before reaching out to our teachers for individual behaviour points, you take a moment to discuss the matter with your child at home. This approach not only nurtures open communication at home but also promotes the development of a sense of self-accountability. To streamline communication and optimise staff time, we would ask that you consider reaching out when you observe a pattern of behaviour points, rather than for each individual incident.

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Welland Park Academy Classroom Behaviour System



Mobile phones:

Students' mobile phones are not permitted to be out during the school day (unless sanctioned by a member of staff) and if they are seen by members of staff, they are confiscated. Students will be issued a behaviour point and will be allowed to collect the phone at the end of the school day.

If a student has their phone confiscated a second time, they will again be given a behaviour point and will also be required to complete a detention until 4.15pm the following day. Parents and Carers will be informed of this. The student will be placed on a digital device agreement for a week and must bring their phone to the Pastoral Office at the start of each school day and collect it at the end of the day.

In the unlikely event that this happens for a third time, they will again be given a behaviour point and will also be required to complete a detention until 5pm with a member of the Leadership Team. Parents and Carers will be informed of this. The student will be placed on a digital device agreement for two weeks.

Presentation

The rules below are a basic minimum standard that we share with our students:

- All work should have a title and a date written in this format – 1st September 2026. The title should be underlined with a ruler
- You should normally write in blue or black pen
- Graphs and tables must be drawn using a ruler or other equipment; in pencil and be properly labelled
- Highlighters can be used as directed by your teacher
- Crossings out should be neat and NOT messily scribbled out
- Work MUST be free from all graffiti
- You should write your name clearly on any loose sheets
- Handwriting should be as neat and clear as you can reasonably make it so that it is easily understood. Most GCSEs now award marks for spelling.

If your work is not presented well enough, your teacher may ask you to do it again.

Homework

Homework is an important part of learning at Welland Park Academy. It gives students the opportunity to think about the work they have done in school; it helps to develop the skills of self-discipline, organisation and learning; it is part of the partnership between home and school.

Homework will be set regularly in most subjects using Edulink. Students and parents will be given log in details at the start of the year so that they can see details of all homework set and any resources needed to complete it. They can also download the app version to their phone or tablet to provide a clear list of all tasks to be completed.

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THINGS TO KNOW

Tutor Time and Assemblies: We have tutor time every day and it is really important that your child makes it on time for this every day. There will be designated activities for each morning which will include activities such as ERIC (**E**veryone **R**eading **I**n **C**lass), knowledge and engagement and signing of report cards and passports. Assemblies take place on other designated days. Each Year Group will have at least one assembly each week.

Equipment for lessons: All students must be equipped to work every day with: a pencil case, pens (blue/black), green pen, pencil, ruler, eraser, scientific calculator, pair of compasses, protractor and a reading book. If a student does not have these basic items then they may receive a behaviour point.

Arrangements for pick-up after school / during the day: We receive a lot of messages regarding changes to pick up routines which can be a timely task. Could we ask that where possible, arrangements are made before the school day with your child.

Trips: All are available to be booked through our Parent Pay system. Some trips can become oversubscribed; information on the allocation of places will be made on a trip-by-trip basis.

Lost property: Items are the responsibility of the student at all times. Any items found around the school will be handed into the student reception. We would advise placing name tags in all items.

Lockers: Lockers are available to Year 7 students on a rental basis. The charge for the year is **£7.00** and includes a £2.00 returnable deposit which will be refunded at the end of year 7 when the keys are returned. If a key is lost and needs replacing the deposit will not be refunded. If you would like to reserve a locker for your child, you can do so online through Parent Pay, Welland Park Academy's online payment system.

CAREERS EDUCATION INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE

As part of our objective of creating confident learners, who are ready for the next stage of their lives, we believe passionately in high quality Careers education. We support our students by providing impartial advice and guidance on all the routes available to our students Post 16 across Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. The Careers programme of study is delivered through Citizenship lessons, assemblies, outside speakers, interview days, careers fairs and visits. We also use the Unifrog Careers platform to help students discover a wide range of digital resources on Careers and track their interactions with employers.

For further information, please contact:

Careers Lead

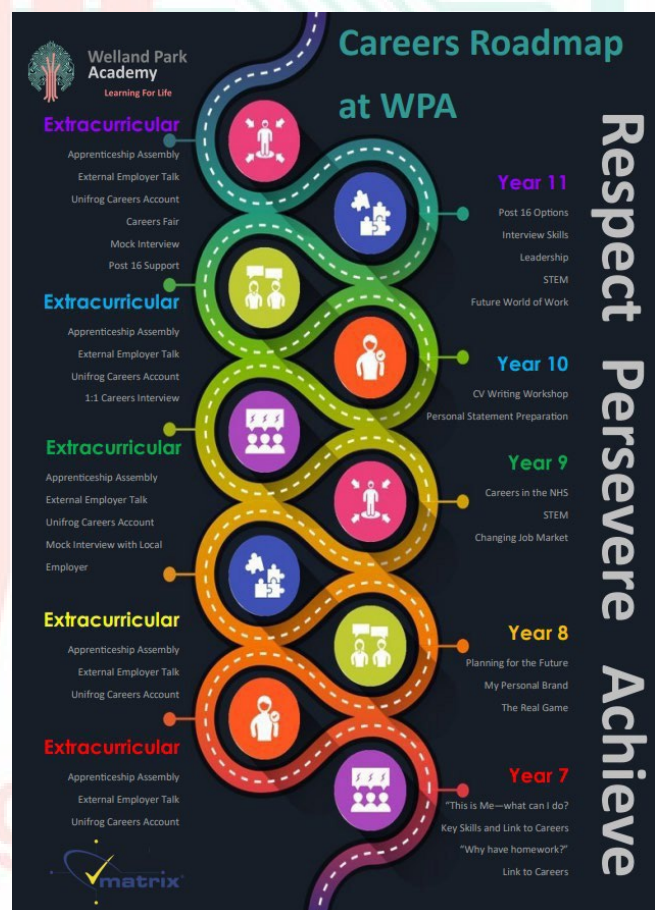
Mr Sam Askham

askhams@wellandparkacademy.com

Careers Advisor

Mrs Sarah Hix

hixs@wellandparkacademy.com



PARENT PAY

At Welland Park Academy we use a company called ParentPay which allows you to make payments for a variety of items online.

Please log on to www.parentpay.com or follow the link on the Welland Park Academy website and enter your username & password. If you have not received your login details please contact the school office. You will be able to pay immediately for items such as; trips, revision guides, resources, dinner money etc.

How do I activate my account? To create a new account, you will need to have the account activation letter provided by your school to hand. You will also need to be able to access your email as your email address will become your new username and is used for the verification process. If you have lost your activation letter or not yet received it, please contact Welland Park Academy.

Please note, if you have previously had a ParentPay account you should attempt to log in to this account and follow 'the add a child' process, rather than creating a new one.

1. Navigate to www.parentpay.com
2. Select **Login** at the top right corner of the screen
3. Enter the **username** and **password** (activation codes) provided in your account activation letter and select **Login**
4. Complete the activation as detailed on the screen.

You can now log in to your account.

How do I pay for items? You can now pay for items using either card, or Parent Account funds, or a combination of both.

Paying with credit/debit card:

1. Log in to your ParentPay account
2. Select the button with the  symbol to quickly pay for meals, or the **Pay for other items** for a full list of this child's items for payment*
3. Select either **View basket and pay** or **Continue shopping**.

4. Once you have selected all your items, your basket and order summary will be displayed. Review the details and select **Pay now** (please note that the amount you are required to pay will be reduced by any credit you have in your Parent Account balance). **For quick meal payments, enter the amount you wish to credit your child's meal account with and **Add to basket** (please refer to the How do I make bookings FAQ if your child's meals need to be booked).*
For other items select **View details and pay against the item you wish to purchase*
5. Then **Add to basket**.

EDULINK ONE

EduLink One

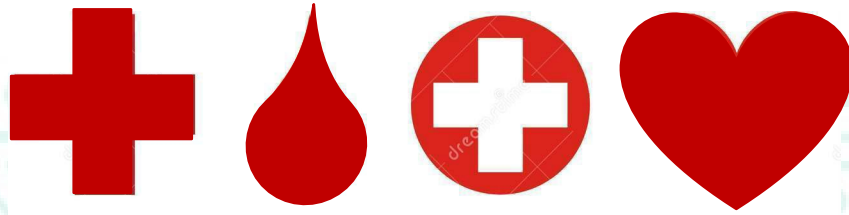
EduLink One provides an integrated school information platform which draws together a range of existing schools systems, allowing teachers, parents and students to communicate and access information in one place.

EduLink can be used via an app on your phone or through the internet to access the following information:

- Homework
- Timetable
- Parents Evening Booking
 - Behaviour
 - Attendance
- Communication home

More information will be given to you once your child has started at Welland Park Academy

MEDICAL CONDITIONS



If your child suffers with any medical conditions such as, but not limited to:

Asthma
Epilepsy
Any Allergy
Diabetes

Please ensure details are provided to the school along with any necessary medication.

All medication is kept in a locked, but easily accessible, cupboard in our Student Services Office.

A Health Care Plan will be sent to you once your child has started at Welland Park Academy. It is both the students and parents' responsibility to ensure any needed medication is in date i.e. Epi Pen, Inhalers

If you wish to discuss the matter prior to the start of the academic year then please contact Mrs Burgess on:

burgessn@wellandparkacademy.com

Please note students are not permitted to carry medication such as paracetamol or ibuprofen. These must be given to the front office to be stored safely.

THE HOME- SCHOOL AGREEMENT

We would like to remind you that by enrolling your child at our school, you have agreed to our Home-School Agreement. This agreement outlines the mutual responsibilities and expectations of the school, parents, and students to ensure a successful and supportive learning environment.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to our shared goals.

As Parent(s)/Carer(s) we will:

- Ensure that the student attends regularly and on time.
- Promote a positive attitude to education and the Academy and encourage the student to take an active part in academy life, including extra-curricular activities.
- Support the academy's published policies/behaviour guidelines with sanctions, particularly the Acceptable Use of ICT policy.
- Support the student in homework and other opportunities for home learning.
- Inform the Academy as soon as possible about concerns which could affect the student's learning or behaviour.
- Ensure that the student is appropriately dressed in accordance with the Academy dress code at all times.
- Attend parents' meetings regarding the student and reply to communications from the Academy.
- Ensure that the student brings the equipment needed for each day.
- Ensure that the Academy has at least one other emergency contact number/email address.
- Avoid taking family holidays in term time.
- Ensure that students do not participate in anti-social or illegal behaviour which brings the Academy into disrepute either online or physically.
- Adhere to the Parent Code of Conduct (available on our website)

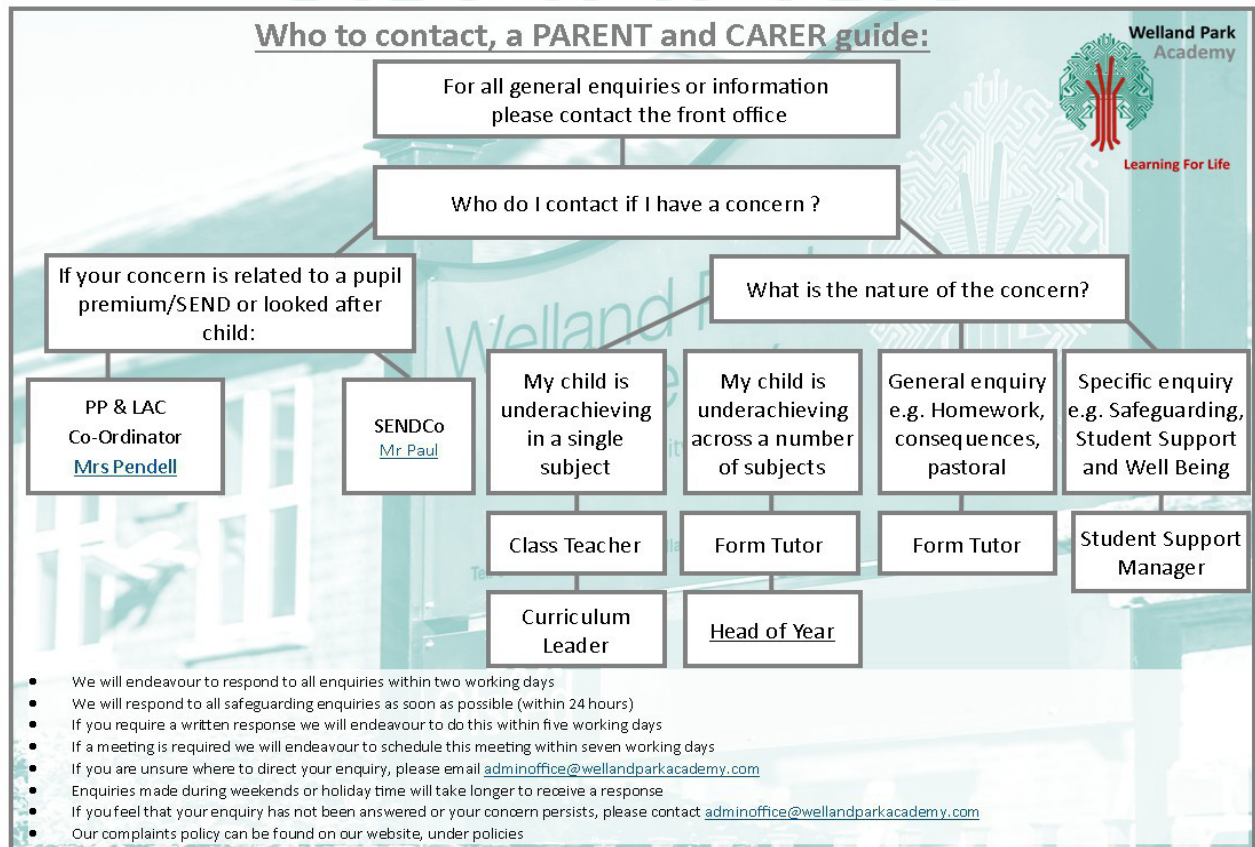
As an Academy we will:

- Provide a disciplined, caring and safe environment where students feel valued and using external agencies where appropriate.
- Work together to provide the highest quality education for each individual student.
- Provide a balanced, inclusive curriculum, which allows all students to reach their potential.
- Set regular and meaningful homework.
- Encourage students to work co-operatively, respecting each other, adults and their environment.
- Communicate regularly with parents/carers about general school matters and the progress of their child. We will also try to alert parents to any praiseworthy matters or concerns as soon as possible.
- Work within a framework of equal opportunities and follow a clear anti-bullying policy.
- Facilitate the development of appropriate study skills for the next stage of education.

As a student I will:

- Follow the Academy code of conduct and classroom expectations.
- Attend regularly and arrive on time for both the Academy and lessons.
- Bring all the equipment I need every day.
- Dress in accordance with the Academy dress code at all times.
- Work hard, always to the best of my ability and hand work in on time.
- Respect other people and behave in a polite and considerate way towards others.
- Take an active part in academy life which may include extra-curricular activities.
- Be proud of my achievements and respect the achievement of others.
- Use our academy premises and equipment properly and respect our environment.
- Not participate in any anti-social or illegal behaviour on line or physically that will bring the Academy into disrepute either on or off site.
- I will follow ICT guidelines with regard to security, manners and tolerance.

Who to Contact:



Useful Contacts:

Mrs Ellie Askham – Head of Key Stage 3
& Head of Year 7 E:

askhame@wellandparkacademy.com

Miss Sam O'Connell – Head of Year 8
E: [oconnells@wellandparkacademy.com](mailto:connells@wellandparkacademy.com)

Mrs Emma Ostler – Head of Year 9
E: ostlere@wellandparkacademy.com

Mr Sam Blades – Head of Year 10
E: bladess@wellandparkacademy.com

Mrs Fiona Horne - Head of Key Stage 4
& Head of Year 11 E:
hornef@wellandparkacademy.com

Mrs Kerry Hardy – Pastoral Support Manager Years 7 & 8
E: hardyk@wellandparkacademy.com

Mrs Becky Manton (nee King) - Pastoral Support Manager
Years 9 & 10 E: kingb@wellandparkacademy.com

Ms Anna Mee - Pastoral Support Manager Year 11
E: meea@wellandparkacademy.com

Mr Simeon Paul -SENDCo
E: sendco@wellandparkacademy.com

Useful links:

Website: www.wellandparkacademy.co.uk

Facebook page: Welland Park Academy

Email: adminoffice@wellandparkacademy.com

Tel: 01858 464795