



19/07/2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

As our Year 10 learners transition into their final year at St James Academy, it is my aim to ensure that they leave with the best possible results to give them **improved life chances**.

The next academic year is all about securing academic excellence, positively pushing limits and strengthening resilience. I am proud to be leading the year group to the finish line. My team and I have successfully improved the academic performance at St James Academy from **19%** of learners achieving grade 5 or above in Maths and English in 2019 to **38%** of learners achieving grade 5 or above in Maths and English in 2023. Your support in this final year is crucial to making this cohort a success.

Working alongside myself as the Vice Principal supporting Year 11s, Miss Rose will be on my team as your child's learning manager for next academic year. It is her pleasure to lead this year group, raising standards, expectations, progress and attainment and the overall well-being of learners within the year group.

Whilst we know that the start of a new academic year can be both exciting and daunting for children, I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the pastoral team and curriculum leaders will work together very closely and are always available to support learners across different year groups.

Miss Rose has worked within the pastoral team and the academy in previous years, therefore giving her good knowledge of the learners who are due to be within the year group. Miss Rose has worked with young people in Dudley and supporting their overall development previously.

I hope that this gives you reassurance that we have a robust team in place with the necessary skillset to support your child with their needs and my team and I will make it our priority to ensure that we are available to provide the right level of support.

My aim is to celebrate success across the year group; perfect uniform, excellent manners, a positive attitude to learning, excellent academic results, kindness and compassion to others and being resilient. There will be a reward system whereby your child receives a weekly Friday rewards ticket based on behaviour, merits and attendance.



St James Academy

St. James's Road, Dudley, West Midlands. DY1 3JE
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Principal: Mr I Moore



There are so many things to look forward to as a Year 11 learner, such as:

- Year 10 Summer Smash
- Year 11 vision and strapline for the year
- Upgrade sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in Maths, English and Science (Rewards).
- Academic weekend residentials
- Mock Exams
- Prom planning
- Graduation day planning
- Year 11 Formal Agreements (To ensure all learners understand the criteria for PROM and Graduation on the first day back)
- Fund Raising
- Mock Results Day
- Saturday Smash revision sessions
- Year 11 Shopping Experience (Learners get a ticket and pick revision materials such as guides, stationery etc **ALL FOR FREE**)

There are so many other experiences I have planned for next year and I am looking forward to a strong start in September.

To help your child prepare for the new academic year, it is important to start the new term strong, please see below.

Uniform expectations:

Our uniform is currently supplied by Crested School Wear, Churchill Shopping Centre, Dudley 01384 918 330. For Years 8 to 11, blazers can be purchased in store or online via the Crested website www.crestedschoolwear.co.uk.

All learners are to wear full uniform smartly. Please ensure your child's top button is done up, shirt is tucked in, and skirt is not rolled up at the waist. The following items are mandatory items of our school uniform:

- St James Academy black blazer with school badge to be worn at all times.
- Plain white shirt (long or short sleeved).
- St James Academy tie.
- Plain black **tailored** school skirt or trousers - straight leg, straight cut (slightly flared or boot cut are acceptable). Slim/skintight fitting trousers are **not permitted**.
- Black socks or black tights.
- Plain black hard sole leather polishable school shoes (see image below for guidance on school shoes).
- Black v-neck jumper (this is optional to wear under your child's blazer). Round neck jumpers or zip up jumpers or jumpers with logos etc are **not permitted**.





- All learners must come to school with a backpack (at least the size of an A4 document, other types of bags are **not permitted**.)

We are relentless in ensuring the highest of standards for our learners and this includes their uniform. Learners can:

- Wear one stud earring in each ear
- Wear a watch

We do not permit:

- False nails or eyelashes, facial piercings
- Hoodies on the school site
- Converse, trainer or ankle boot type footwear.

Equipment:

- Pencil case - this should include the following items: black, red, and green pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, calculator, highlighter pen and colouring pencils.
- Learners should not bring pencil sharpeners, scissors or protractors.



The academy is committed to further enhancing the ethos and culture of raising aspiration and achievement. **From September ALL learners will be required to carry a backpack. Shoulder bags / cross body bags etc will not be allowed.**

Arrangements for the beginning of the new term - September 2024

We look forward to welcoming **all** learners for a strong start to school on **Tuesday 3rd September**.

- Year **7** learners are to arrive **before 8.40am** (from 8.15am) through the front car park for line up.
- Year **8**, Year **9** and Year **10** learners are to **arrive at 10.40am** through the blue gate for line up on the basketball court.
- Year **11** learners are to **arrive at 9.00am** through the front car park for line up.

It is my pleasure to be embarking on this journey with you all and supporting your child through their next phase of learning.

Finally, please check out the Academy's Newsletter and Uniform Information Sheet – a physical copy of which has been provided to learners and a digital version is also available on our website.



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Have a lovely and safe summer break. If you need to contact the academy, please email: **general@stjamesacademy.org.uk** (please be aware that, due to the holidays, responses may be slower than usual).

Kind regards,

E. Adeoye

Miss Adeoye
Vice Principal

M. Rose

Miss Rose
Year 11 Learning Manger

