13 July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the final week of the summer term in what has been an extremely interesting year, I wanted to write to you all to share with you the key updates for the new academic year.

School Uniform
From September, all learners at school will be expected to wear school uniform when they attend school. A school uniform is really important as it ensures that our learners have a sense of identity as well as encouraging them to take pride in their appearance.

The RBA school uniform for learners will be as follows:
- Black trousers (not jeans, jean like material or tracksuit bottoms) or black skirt (knee length)
- White shirt
- School Jumper – this will be a black jumper with the school logo on the left breast area
- Black trainers or shoes

School will provide RBA branded jumpers for all learners. Heads of Campus and Form Tutors will liaise with you in terms of sizes at the start of the new academic year.

School Day
Since joining the Academy in May, it has become apparent that the current hours of the school day do not meet the statutory expectations of learning time per week for our learners. I am also aware through conversations with key partners and stakeholders that the current timings are causing a significant number of issues for both our learners and key partners in and around Peterborough.

As we move forward, it is critical that we align with the national direction in relation to expected outcomes and progress in the Alternative Provision sector, as well as our own continuing high aspirations for all of our learners.

At the Richard Barnes Academy, we are driven to support our learners so that they can become successful members of their communities. To ensure this continues it is imperative that we:

- Continue to meet the needs of all of our learners by offering even greater levels of influence and support

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- Continue to develop and extend the breadth and depth of our curriculum offer at all key stages
- Continue to effectively prepare our learners for a return to mainstream education/ appropriate setting or onto a Post 16 placement
- Meet statutory expectations regarding the length of our school day

To ensure that we are able to achieve our aspirations, our school day will change from September to the timings detailed in the table below.

Timings Monday - Friday	Activity
9.00am- 9.20am	*Breakfast Club (Optional)*
9.20am- 9.35am	Tutor Time
9.35am- 10.20am	Period 1
10.20am- 11.05am	Period 2
11.05am- 11.20am	*Break Time*
11.20am- 12.05pm	Period 3
12.05pm- 12.50pm	Period 4
12.50pm- 13.25pm	*Lunch*
13.25pm- 14.10pm	Period 5
14.10pm- 14.55pm	Period 6
14.55pm- 15.10pm	Reflection & Acknowledgement

Last day of term and term dates for next year
As a result of the Academisation to TDET in May, the last day of school for this year is Friday 17 July.

School starts back again for staff on Thursday 3 September and Friday 4 September, both of which are training days for the whole staff team. I have attached the School Term dates for 2020/2021 to this letter so that you have these for your reference.

I will be writing to you again later in the week with details of our current thinking on how school will reopen for learners in September. As you will appreciate, this is an extremely dynamic process and could be subject to change if there are any increases to the 'R' rate in and around Peterborough over the summer.

In the meantime, I wish you and your families a safe and restful summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Morley
Principal

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