



Central Academy

The best in everyone

Part of United Learning

DMA/LFA

13th July, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of a very different academic year, I would like to take some time to update you on our plans for next year and any changes that will take place. As you will have heard from the Education Secretary, we anticipate school returning to normal from September. However, we also need to prepare that this could change and we may need to adapt, depending on the local and national picture.

Last Day Arrangements:

A reminder our final day is Friday 16th July. Students will be dismissed at 12:15 pm. Students who are eligible for free school meals will be able to access a grab bag lunch to take home. I would encourage all students to make sure they have taken all their personal belongings home with them.

September Arrangements:

It is difficult to say with absolute certainty how the Academy will re-open in September. We expect that it is likely that students will have to test for asymptomatic cases of Covid before returning to school. If this is the case, I would expect that the Academy will re-open as follows:

- Wednesday 1st September, 2021 – INSET Day
- Thursday 2nd September 2021 – Years 7, 11 and Year 12 students will come in for appointment tests only, then go home.
- Friday 3rd September 2021 – Years 7 and 11 students return to the Academy, Years 8, 9, 10 & 13 students come in for appointment tests only, then go home.
- Monday 6th September 2021 – All students return to the Academy.

This is subject to change; we will write to you in late August when we are absolutely clear on government plans for returning children to school.

Staffing Update:

I hope you will join me in sending our best wishes to Amanda Frankish, Nigel Cannar, Lee Johnstone, Kerry Markham, Lewis Gattens and Katie Potts who will be leaving us this summer. I would like to wish all of them the best of luck in their new roles. I would also like to say a special goodbye to Jenny Watson who will be retiring this year after 20 years service. On behalf of the Central family, I would like to say thank you and best wishes in your retirement.



Principal: Miss C Bacon

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As you know, I was appointed as Principal at Central earlier this term and since my appointment we have added capacity to the senior team, as well as change some of the roles and responsibilities. I am very pleased to announce that Emma Mackay has been appointed as Senior Assistant Principal. Emma has an excellent track record and will be responsible for Leadership and Teaching & Learning across the Academy. I am also pleased that Michelle Rigg, current Designated Safeguarding Lead at Morton will be overseeing safeguarding across both Central and Morton from September. Below I have outlined the senior leadership roles for September:

Name	Role	Email
Richard McGuire	Executive Principal	Richard.McGuire@rrfa.org.uk
Dan Markham	Principal	Dan.Markham@rrca.org.uk
Emma Mackay	Senior Assistant Principal (Teaching & Learning)	Emma.Mackay@rrca.org.uk
Michelle Rigg	Dual Site DSL	Michelle.Rigg@rrma.org.uk
Simon Howarth	Assistant Principal – Outcomes and 6 th form	Simon.Howarth@rrca.org.uk
Nicky Dyer	Assistant Principal - Curriculum	Nicky.Dyer@rrca.org.uk
Steph Slater	Assistant Principal – DSL & Careers	Stephanie.Slater@rrca.org.uk
Ellie Stott	Assistant Principal – Behaviour & rewards	Ellie.Stott@rrca.org.uk

We have also made some additional appointments within the school to enhance the learning experience for students:

Name	Role
Liz Barnsley	Head of Year 7 (Achievement Leader)
Wendy Cottrell	Head of Year 7 (Pastoral Leader)
Georgina Moynan	Head of Year 8 (Achievement Leader)
Shane Armstrong	Head of Year 8 (Pastoral Leader)
Brendan Reilly	Head of Year 9 (Achievement Leader)
Fiona Sheridan	Head of Year 9 (Pastoral Leader)
Finn Mulholland	Head of Year 10 (Achievement Leader)
David Carr	Head of Year 10 (Pastoral Leader)
Gareth Barratt	Head of Year 11 (Achievement Leader)
Louise Best	Head of Year 11 (Pastoral Leader)
Helen Robinson	SENCO

I am also delighted to welcome the following new staff to the Central family as the school continues to grow:

Name	Role
Melissa Noble	Teacher of Maths
Melissa Aurelia	Teacher of Science
Caroline Snape	Teacher of English
Marie Fisher	Academic Mentor - English
Siobhan Monaghan	Trainee Teacher of DT

Structural Changes:

Following on from 18 months of Covid disruption we have explored different ways of making the building work better. Some of the adaptations we plan to maintain are:

- All students enter the building by 08.35 unless they are taking part in an activity before school.
- Year groups will have their own zones where their Tutor Rooms will be, lockers and toilet block.
- Specific outdoor spaces for year groups at break and lunches.
- Split lunches and breaks.

Following on from 18 months of disruption we are going to re-organise the school day to ensure students have as much time as possible to embed deep concepts. We plan to move from five 60 minute lessons in a day, to three 100 minute lessons in a day to improve learning and to tackle any gaps that may have appeared during the two lockdowns. This means that students will spend more time in lessons and less time moving around the building. The window of the school day remains the same (8.35 am – 3.00 pm) and this allows for lunches to be slightly earlier than in our previous school day structure. We are trialling this for the autumn term and we will be asking for you and your child's views on this regularly, so please, do share when we ask. An example of how the school day will look is below:

Years 10, 11, 12 & 13		Years 7, 8, 9	
Activity	Time of Day	Activity	Time of Day
Lesson 1	08.35 – 10.15	Lesson 1	08.35 – 10.15
Lesson 2	10.15 – 12.15	Break	10.15 – 10.35
Break within Lesson 2	11.05 – 11.25	Lesson 2	10.35 – 12.15
Tutor Time/Reading	12.15 – 12.50	Lunch	12.15 – 12.45
Lunch	12.50 – 13.20	Tutor Time/Reading	12.45 – 13.20
Lesson 3	13.20 – 15.00	Lesson 3	13.20 – 15.00

You will see that we are allocating time with Tutors during the school day alongside our whole school reading programme. In September, you will also be given the Home Learning Timetable for all year groups as we want this to be clear for you, so you know when your child has been set homework and when it is due.

Other Changes:

We also plan to introduce some new opportunities for our students. Currently, students are voting for the names of our new House system. This will underpin our new rewards strategy after the successful launch of the I-Choose system. This will ensure that students are frequently rewarded for positive contributions to the school community.

Uniform:

As you'll know you are now able to purchase uniform from our new supplier Your School Uniform.com. The link for our part of the site is [HERE](#)

The Uniform Shop in Carlisle still has some stock available should you wish to purchase from that supplier. Please refer to the website for our uniform expectations. The Academy will also be operating a 'swap shop' for most of our uniform items. This will be advertised on social media. If you have items that can be donated, please bring them in and please feel welcome to visit the 'swap shop' to ensure these items get used. Please note that jewellery is not permitted in the Academy. Any questions relating to uniform please email uniform@rrca.org.uk

Equipment:

When students return in September, they should have adequate supplies of pens, pencils and rubbers. The Academy will supply your child with a planner and knowledge organiser. Students will also need their lanyard and card to ensure they can access the canteen and printing services. Our new Year 7s and Year 12s will have photos taken early in the academic year. Our rules on mobile phones remain the same, these devices should not be seen in the Academy.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals:

If you are eligible for free school meals you should have received an email outlining how you can claim this over the summer break. We are aware that many of your circumstances may have changed over this year. Therefore, I would recommend that you visit our website to see if you are eligible for Pupil Premium [HERE](#)

I would like to thank everyone in the school community for their resilience during a challenging year. I will be writing to you over the summer break, supported by a student video so you are clear on how school will return based on the most up to day government guidance.

I hope you and your family get a break over the summer period and have the opportunity to see family and friends as the restrictions are eased. As always, if you need anything, please contact the Academy on info@rrca.org.uk and a member of staff will respond to any queries you may have.

Yours faithfully



Mr Markham
Principal