



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Dear Parent/carer,

We would like to provide you with some important information at the start of the summer break to help answer any questions you may have about the new academic year here at Thornhill Academy. Without swamping you with information, here are some key things we think you will want to know over the summer. If there is anything else that you want to know about, please contact the enquiries email address, thr-enquiries@consilium-at.com, and we will ensure someone gets back to you.

Start of term arrangements

Monday 5th September is an INSET day for staff.

All students start back at school on Tuesday 6th September. Students should be in the school yard for 8.30am for an 8.40am start to the day. Throughout the day there will be time for students to meet with their tutor and attend an assembly, however the aim is to get students re-engaged with learning as quickly as possible.

Uniform

Enclosed within this letter is a booklet about uniform expectations, please read it carefully and if you have any questions, please contact our enquiries email. Our uniform is sensible and affordable, but we expect it to be worn well and according to the guidance we give.

In our continued drive to improve standards we have made some minor amendments to the uniform guidance. Please ensure that you take time to read this guidance to ensure that you do not purchase items which are not suitable and would need to be replaced.

Important changes to the uniform policy:

- Plain black sweatshirts are no longer part of the school uniform.
- Outdoor coats must be waterproof and one solid dark colour.
- When purchasing a new or replacement blazer, it will be embroidered with the new logo.
- When purchasing a tie these will now be a biodegradable full tie or clip on alternative.
- New non-branded PE Kit – available at Little Gems or a high street alternative.

As part of their uniform, students should also have a school bag. This should be large enough for them to carry PE kit and any other daily essentials. Our advice would be that it should be large enough to hold an A4 file in terms of size.

When they first start, it is likely to still be quite warm and an outdoor coat will probably not be necessary, but their outdoor coat should be a coat which will keep them warm and dry in the winter months. Hoodies and out layer jackets are not allowed.

Equipment

All students should bring a pen, pencil, and ruler as the minimum expectation for equipment. We strongly encourage them to be independent with a pencil case with additional pens and pencils and other stationery items.

Breakfast Club

We have a breakfast club that operates from the dining hall each day from 8.00am until 8.40am. Students can get a drink, bagels and cereal, this is free to all students. We recommend this to all students as a great place to meet up with friends, get breakfast and ensure they are on time for school.



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Communication with school & School Lunches

We use a range of apps to ensure that we can communicate effectively with parents and parents can also communicate with staff. This two-way communication is essential to ensure we have the information required to support our young people. Class Charts and the Parent App allow you to track the academic progress, attendance, homework and behaviour of your child whilst in school whilst also enabling direct communication with staff.

Within school we operate a cashless payment system via the app Parent Pay. This allows you to pre-pay for lunches and pay for other in school activities. School lunches cost £2 per day for a meal deal which includes a hot lunch and a dessert or bottle of water alternatively a cold lunch, drink and dessert. Additional items can be purchased in addition to the meal deal. We would like to encourage all parents to use the Parent Pay App where possible moving forward. If your child is entitled to free school meals £2 will automatically be added each day to student accounts. If you are unsure if you are entitled to free school meals, then please check your eligibility via our website or via the link below:

[Online FSM Application \(cloudforedu.org.uk\)](https://cloudforedu.org.uk)

Login details for these applications are included within this pack of information. If you are not already using these apps, we recommend you download these apps in advance of the start of the new term and upload money for school lunches to avoid the need for your child to bring cash into school.

Term dates

At Thornhill we follow the local authority holidays. We feel this supports families with children in primary school. Our term dates can be found on our website and on the local authority website.

We have the following INSET days:

Monday 5th September 2022

Monday 31st October 2022

Friday 25th November 2022

We are very much looking forward to working together in partnership from September. Please always remember that communication is essential and if you have any questions, always contact us.

Have a lovely summer,

Sue Hamilton
Headteacher