



TNHA Academy Update

Date: Monday 14th October 2024 (Week B)

TNHA Vision

Inspiring every student who comes through our doors by providing them with the best educational experience we can and by giving our students every opportunity to be the best that they can be.

Be Ready, Be Ambitious, Be Safe, Be Kind

Dear Parents and Carers,

Where has the term gone!

I can't believe that we are rapidly heading towards the half term break and how quickly the last seven weeks have gone. It only feels like moments ago that we were welcoming students back after the summer break and that we were setting new term and new year expectations. Our students have been great in raising their standards to meet these expectations and they are now well into the routines of day-to-day life in the academy.

The first part of the autumn term can feel quite relentless and we are now transitioning into the part of the term when students need to demonstrate hard work and resilience to the work that they are getting in lessons, as their teachers will be challenging them to improve and make progress with their learning. Students should find work difficult at the moment and they should find that it makes them think but this should also be done with the right support, something we have been working with our teachers on over the last few weeks.

This is also the time of year when, coughs and colds can creep in. We have spoken lots to the students about good attendance. Our most recent set of exam results show that students who have good attendance achieve well. In some cases, good attendance can make the difference of a grade at GCSE, but this goes much further down into the academy, as the learning that students do in the lower school forms the basis of knowledge for their exams later. Having good attendance at every stage is important. We have been pleased to see lots of students showing the resilience to get into the academy even when they do not feel 100 percent and persisting to stay in the academy so they can get to all their lessons. As the term progresses and students get more tired this attribute will become even more important!

Kind regards, Mr Woodhouse, Principal

Upcoming Key Dates

(Dates may be subject to change)

Tuesday 22nd October

Year 9/10 Flu Vaccinations

Friday 25th October

End of Autumn Half Term 1

Half Term 2 Key Dates

Monday 4th November

Academy Re-opens

Tuesday 5th November

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Friday 8th November

KS4 High Lodge PE Trip

Wednesday 27th November

Year 11 Parent's Evening

Friday 29th November

ATT Staff Training Day

(Academy closed to students)

Monday 2nd December

Year 11 Mock Exams Start

Friday 20th December

Academy closes for Christmas



TNHA Leadership Team Updates

From Miss Thomason, Vice Principal

Thank you for supporting your child with their homework. A number of parents have asked about the logins for the different online sites:

- SENECA: emails were sent to student's school email address. They can log into their email account and find their Seneca username and password.
- SPARX: SPARX maths, and SPARX reader can both be accessed using your child's Microsoft login which is the same as the username and password they use to log into school computers.

KS4 students will have homework set online using SPARX, Seneca and GCSE Pod, but also as paper copies as much of it will be focussed on GCSE exam practice.

Year 11 updates

Thank you to all those who attended the Year 11 Exams Information Evening on Wednesday. I hope that you found the evening useful. As a reminder, the important dates for assessment/ exams are listed below:

W/C 4th November:	Mock Spanish Oral exams
27th November:	Year 11 Parents Evening 4-7pm
2nd – 4th December:	Mock GCSE exams begin.
12th December:	Year 11 Revision Evening
6th- 24th January:	Mock GCSE exams continue.

From Mrs Smith, Assistant Principal (SENDCo)

ASD/ADHD

We have a number of students that are on a referral process due to concerns around ASD and ADHD traits, either from a parental concern or a concern that we have experienced in school. In order to support students who, fall under this category we have been spending our professional development time training teachers on support in class that would best support these students.

Alongside student voice (creating a profile of need) as staff we have been working on the Judith Carter model of the 7C's of assessment and learning. Last week our focus was cognition and communication, particularly relevant to students showing signs of ASD. We looked into how we can adapt our lessons to ensure that we are supporting those students best. As always, I hope that the message coming out of these updates is that if you feel we need to support your child in any way you communicate that need to us so that we have a joined up working relationship with parents. If you would like more support on this as parents,

I have highlighted specific websites and groups that may be of use to you.

<https://www.norfolksendiass.org.uk/>



<https://www.asdhelpinghands.org.uk/>

Take A Break Cards

Some students in the academy have a 'Take-A- Break' card (TAB Card). These are designed for a short-term intervention to support students. These are reviewed 6 weekly. In our review process we will be looking at the reasons for use. If they have not been used frequently then the TAB cards will be revoked. If the card has been used for something in addition to the need e.g. feeling poorly, needing the toilet or because students are tired, is not necessarily for a need and we will discuss with students the need for them. We want to ensure that students have the best plan for intervention and a TAB Card may not always be the right provision, especially if this is impacting on students learning as they are out of lesson a lot.

From Mrs Atkins, Assistant Principal

Serious Violence – Understanding your Child

The term serious violence includes both gang involvement and weapon possession. To enable a collaborative approach between education, police, health services and local authorities, a document called the Serious Violence Duty was introduced to prevent and address serious violence, particularly in young people.

“Serious violence has a devastating impact on victims and their families, instils fear within communities and is extremely costly to society. Incidents of serious violence have increased in England and Wales since 2014. For example, offences involving knives or sharp instruments increased by 84 percent between the year to June 2014 and the year to June 2020.”

(Serious Violence Duty, March 2023)

Why might young people join a gang?

There are lots of reasons why young people might join a gang. Some of those reasons could be:

- Respect and status
- To gain friends
- A sense of belonging
- Excitement
- Power
- Protection
- Money
- Peer pressure

They might not know they are part of a gang. For lots of young people, being part of a gang gives them a sense of belonging and identity. In adolescence it's normal to start separating from your family with peer groups becoming more important than before. Gangs can take advantage of this and make young people feel part of a different 'family' so they might not want to leave. Even if they do, leaving or attempting to leave can be a frightening prospect. They might be frightened about what will happen to them, their friends or their family if they leave. Often young people will not consider themselves to be part of a 'gang' but just that they have strong commitment to their 'friends'.



Why might young people carry a weapon?

There are many reasons that a child might decide to carry a knife or weapon. This could include:

- Fear of being a victim of knife crime – it could have been a specific threat, or a perceived fear
- General self-defence – the ‘just in case’ reason
- They don’t know it is wrong or illegal
- To intimidate others (by way of protection)
- Peer pressure
- To earn respect
- Involvement in criminal activities

What to do if you are worried about your child?

- Find the right time to talk to your child, when it is quiet, and you can have some privacy. The conversation needs to take place wherever they feel safest. If home is crowded, you could talk in the car or whilst walking the dog. Be available and ready to listen. Reassure them that they can be honest with you and let them know you are not there to judge them.
- Your child might not tell you much but what you say, think and feel is important to them.
- While we often want to ‘resolve’ our children’s problems, this is a complex subject and takes time. Listening is the most important step – for both of you. Even if they aren’t saying much, make sure you ‘hear’ them.
- Don’t rush to give advice that they might not be ready to hear.
- Your child may be reluctant or scared to talk at first – it’s a difficult subject.
- Be patient and try not to react straight away to what they tell you. Let them talk as much as they want to first.
- Encourage them to share their fears and worries.
- Sharing your own fears can help – tell them how much you worry about their safety and their future.
- Show them they are being listened to. Reassure them that the vast majority of young people don’t carry a knife and aren’t part of a gang.
- If they are fearful of someone or something specific, tell them that it can be dealt with without the need for them to carry a knife. Stick to the facts.
- They might not think you know what you’re talking about so a little preparation can really help.
- Use the facts and law information to help you. Do not be afraid to see external professional support from the Police, Children’s Service or even us here at school if you are worried.
- Raise the point that walking away from confrontation, or a fight is the braver thing to do. If someone pulls a knife on them, the safest, wisest thing to do is to walk away.
- Help them reflect on how their actions could affect the people that care for them the most.
- Using a knife or being involved in a gang could place not only themselves, but others at risk.



MYTH

OR

FACTS

Carrying a knife provides a person with protection



It has been proven that if you carry a knife, you are more likely to be hurt or threatened by someone else. People are often wounded by their own knife they were carrying, putting them at greater risk.

Most young people carry knives



Actually, 99% of young people DO NOT carry knives. Sometimes it may feel like more people carry knives because of stories they've heard, or what they have seen online, on social media or in the news.

If it is illegal to carry a knife, then other sharp objects can be carried for protection



Any sharp object that is being carried with the intention of using it in a threatening way could be classed as an offensive weapon.

There are safe places on the body to stab someone



Any stab wound could be fatal for a number of reasons. For example, major arteries run across the whole body. If a major artery is severed, that person will bleed very quickly and it could be fatal within 5 minutes.

For further information I would recommend the following website: [Crimestoppers](#)

From Mrs Abrahams, Assistant Principal

- On Wednesday 16th October, it is the Settling-in evening for all Year 7 parents. This will run from 3.30 pm to 6 pm.
- Huge congratulations to Niamh, Ella & Ayla for winning joint 1st place in the European Day of Languages bake-off competition. Flora and Tina won joint 3rd place.



- Many students have been awarded positive points this week. Below are the names of our top performing students as well as top performing tutor group, by year, and the students chosen by their Heads of Year that deserve special recognition:

Highest performing tutor group by Year

Year 7	MAT	326
Year 8	MBL	181
Year 9	BMU	233
Year 10	CWR	104
Year 11	STH	90

Highest performing student by year group – most positive points

Year 7	Lara	SCN	25
Year 8	Ella & Ryan	MBL/SCO	29
Year 9	Luke	DMS	17
Year 10	Bailey	CWR	10
Year 11	Roby & Tiarna	CCO/STH	9

Student of the Week – The student who has been awarded special recognition for their conduct and/or hard work this week

Year 7	Elouise	SCN	Continued excellence in lessons and helping out at open evening
Year 8	Aliya	BFA	Demonstrating above and beyond kindness to other students within the academy
Year 9	Dexter	MLL	For public speaking at the school open evening and making his school football team debut and having a great game
Year 10	Bethany	CWR	Excellent public speaking at Open Evening
Year 11	Harry	STH	Representing the school in two different sports, scored two goals for the football team

Holiday Dates for the Autumn Term

Autumn Term Half Term: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November

Academy close for Christmas Break at 3.10 pm on Friday 20th December

Trust Staff Training Day on Friday 29th November. The academy will be closed to students on this day.