

HAMMERSMITH

Academy



# PARENT INDUCTION BOOKLET 2024



# WELCOME TO HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY

Welcome to Hammersmith Academy, we are very happy to bring you into our learning community.

This starter induction booklet is designed to give an important snapshot of expectations and the language of learning we use here at the Academy. It includes key information we provide to all students.

An important part of helping your child to succeed will be the work that happens outside the classroom as well as within – this introduction gives some **Parent Top Tips** as to how you can support your child during their time here, and help to contribute to the HA expectations and ethos.

## Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Welcome to Hammersmith Academy .....       | 1  |
| Headteacher's Welcome .....                | 2  |
| The Hammersmith Academy Vision .....       | 3  |
| Our Values Drive Our Academy .....         | 3  |
| The HA Way .....                           | 4  |
| The HA Learner .....                       | 4  |
| Silent Reading .....                       | 7  |
| Literacy Lessons .....                     | 7  |
| Uniform .....                              | 8  |
| Equipment .....                            | 9  |
| Home Learning & Presentation of Work ..... | 10 |
| Summer Work Booklets .....                 | 11 |
| Key Apps & Websites .....                  | 12 |

# HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



We are delighted that your child will be joining Hammersmith Academy in September and embarking on their secondary school journey with us.

This is a very important milestone in their young lives, marking the start of their development into young adults who are prepared for university and the professional world that awaits them.

Transition from primary to secondary school is an exciting time for students, but also a nervous one as they await to discover new friendships, new teachers, and a whole new school experience. It is therefore important that you go through this booklet with your child as it provides key information about the Academy, our ethos and the expectations of our students. Knowing what awaits them will give them some reassurance and something to look forward to.

Our transition team is on hand to help both you and your child navigate through the first year and any uncertainties that you may encounter. We know it is important that your child makes the best start here at the Academy as this sets the foundation for the GCSE and A Level years to come.

We pride ourselves on our relationship with parents. By working together with a common goal of providing the best learning environment in which students make the most progress, students will leave the Academy as the best versions of themselves, hungry for success, ready to contribute and make a difference in society. We can only achieve this with your support.

I look forward to seeing you at the Academy and starting your child's secondary experience together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'G Kynaston'.

Gary Kynaston

**Headteacher**

# THE HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY VISION

**“We are aspirational young adults who make outstanding progress, and as active citizens are committed to giving 100% in everything we do”**

Our aim is to develop highly qualified, aspirational young adults who make outstanding progress, are active citizens who take a lead within their community and are committed to giving 100% in everything they do.

## OUR VALUES DRIVE OUR ACADEMY



**Ready**

*Being prepared for the whole day*



**Responsible**

*Taking ownership of your actions and success*



**Resourceful**

*Finding best ways to solve problems*



**Reflective**

*Asking yourself how you can do better*



**Resilient**

*Staying positive, determined and never giving up*



**Respectful**

*Being kind and polite to others*



**Reciprocal**

*Working with others as a team*

# THE HA WAY

HA students demonstrate:

- Pride and Commitment
- Professionalism and Leadership
- Active citizenship
- Honesty and Reliability
- Respect and Integrity

## THE HA LEARNER

### ***BEFORE* the Academy day**

Year 7 students should aim to arrive to school for 7.50am, Monday through to Friday in time for an 8.00am start. They must arrive to school wearing full school uniform. Students are expected to demonstrate the HA way and expectations at all times.

### ***DURING* the Academy day**

#### **Homework and deadlines**

Students should complete homework in line with the Homework Timetable and read for enjoyment to develop vocabulary. Homework must be completed to the best of the student's ability and be handed in on time.

#### **On-Task behaviour**

Students should remain on task, join in the learning and not interrupt the learning of others. We know that every student has the right to success. If mistakes are made, students must take responsibility (and fair punishment) for actions. Mobile phones should remain switched off at all times. Students can go to reception or Pastoral Support Officer if calls to parents need to be made.

#### **Punctuality and Attendance**

Each day at the Academy is vital. Students should arrive to school on time and not be late for lessons.

#### **No answering back**

Students must understand that teachers and other adults in the Academy are there because they care and because they are experts in their field. Students must not be rude or answer back disrespectfully. Students should follow their instructions first time, every time.

## Perfect Uniform

Students will take pride in how they look at the Academy and, on the way, to and from the Academy. Students are expected to wear perfect uniform. Students must maintain a professional environment and chewing gum is not permitted. Food purchased from the Academy must be eaten in permitted areas only.

## Equipment

Students must ensure they attend the Academy properly equipped for all lessons. They must have the Academy bag, a reading book, a clear pencil case (with all the equipment including a green pen for reflection) and the correct PE kit.

## **AFTER** the Academy day

Students should attend at least 1 session 3 activity a week. when leaving the Academy, students are expected to leave quietly showing consideration for the local community and, if planning to meet friends, must change out of uniform. students are able to use the library after school to complete independent learning.



**Parent Top Tip:** Having high expectations works best when the message from home and school is the same. It is important for all parents to engage with the day to day expectations, so that students are fully aware of their responsibilities during the academic year.



**Parent Top Tip:** As students will hear this language in school, you can also use the language at home to help students make the connection between how these life skills apply in the world, and to everyday challenges.



## **HA PRIDE**

Within our Hammersmith Academy Values it is important that we are preparing ourselves for a global society.

We are all active citizens, and in order to do this here at the Academy we follow a moral code that we call PRIDE.

PRIDE outlines the social values that are important to us in our learning, and wider, community.



### **PERSONAL TOLERANCE**

We are proud of our academy and community where everyone is respected. We respect one another's varying views and opinions and through our curriculum, we learn 'from' and 'about' British and other cultures.



### **RULE OF LAW**

We know that rules are important in order to keep us safe, healthy, and happy. We learn how we are responsible for our actions and about consequences. We know that rules and laws help us support, and be part of, our local community and global society.



### **INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY**

We are encouraged to be independent active citizens. We are encouraged to take the responsibility in our academy and within our community by standing up for what we know is right. 'Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.'

We are encouraged to make choices and do this by showing respect and understanding of others. We learn how to exercise our rights and act responsibly, in a safe and healthy way.



### **DEMOCRACY**

Our voice is important and are aware that our opinions and those of our peers are valued and considered. We learn how to be heard in a polite and respectful way. We have a say through our Junior Leadership Team (JLT) and are involved in important decisions and actions in our school.



### **EQUALITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT**

We build a safe and happy culture of respect for everyone and everything and value equality and diversity. We respect and protect others' cultures, beliefs and differences and know that these make each person different and special.



**Parent Top Tip:** It is important that we are raising young people to be citizens of the world; use the PRIDE structure to engage your child in conversations about wider social issues; this will help them to make connections between being a good moral and active citizen both inside and outside the Academy.



# SILENT READING

If there is one skill that students should master, it is reading. Reading is so important because students will read in all subjects. Without strong reading skills, students may struggle in Maths, Science, Humanities and the Arts. As adults, you will read every day no matter what type of job you have.

To maintain reading ages, students should be acquiring 40 pieces of new vocab. In order for students to access the new GCSE specifications they are required to read at the minimum age of a 15 year old.

## WHY?

- To improve your reading skills – for all subjects
- To allow you to read a variety of books
- To allow you to share your reading with others



## LITERACY LESSONS

Monday through to Thursday, students will have an additional literacy lesson in the morning, 8am- 8.30am. These sessions will support with developing reading skills through a class book, spelling tests and comprehension work.

These sessions are compulsory and all students should attend and be on time.



**Parent Top Tip:** The best way to support students in engaging with reading is to model reading at home – can you introduce a 20-minute reading time in the week at home, in which members of the family all read together? Reading recreationally can help students to develop their vocabulary, and improve their extended writing – crucial skills for all students.

# UNIFORM

| Uniform/Dress   |   |
|---|---|
| Girls   | Boys  |
| Grey Academy Jacket<br>Grey Academy trousers or grey Academy knee length skirt<br>Burgundy Academy tank top<br>Academy tie*<br>YONDR pouch*<br>Plain white collared shirt (long or short sleeved)<br>Plain black socks or plain black tights (without any pattern) may be worn<br>Plain black shoes | Grey Academy Jacket<br>Grey Academy trousers<br>Burgundy Academy tank top<br>Academy tie*<br>YONDR pouch*<br>Plain white collared shirt (long or short sleeved)<br>Plain black socks<br>Plain black shoes |
| <b>No extreme haircuts or dyed hair</b> (no Mohawks, patterned shapes, skin fades, shaved on one side, undercuts or cuts less than 2 blade)<br><b>No jewellery</b> (just one pair of small stud earrings and a watch)<br><b>No acrylic nails, nail varnish, or make-up – no slits in eyebrows</b>   |   |

*\*will be given to the students by the Academy in September*



*"I will always arrive to school wearing my full uniform. I know whilst wearing my uniform outside of the Academy, I am expected to demonstrate the HA way and expectations at all times."*

# EQUIPMENT

## The Power of 3

1. Independent Learning Planner (provided by the Academy)
2. Reading Book
3. Clear, transparent pencil case (provided by the Academy) containing:



- 2 black pens
- 1 green pen
- 2 Pencils
- Ruler
- Highlighter pen
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific Calculator
- Sharpener
- Rubber

TopTip

**Parent Top Tip:** Please check equipment regularly, get students into the routine of packing their bags and hanging uniforms up the night before. The Academy expectations are important, and we rely on parent support and understanding to ensure all students are ready for learning and in line with the wider Academy.

# HOME LEARNING & PRESENTATION OF WORK

Tuesday 26th April 2016

Causes of Uneven Development.

Explain two causes of uneven development (4 marks)

1. One cause of uneven development would be colonialism, which is an historical cause in Africa. Many countries were colonised by European countries, that created protection, skills and technology; however, when they became independent, Africa was left with no infrastructure. It found it difficult to grow food, develop trade and encourage investment. ✓ Good.
2. Another cause of uneven development would be natural disasters, which is an environmental cause. In the UK the island is well-protected from invasion in the past and is easy to make a strong navy to invade other countries and exploit their resources. It also has lots of ports where it can trade lots of goods allowing it to make a lot of money for the government. ✓

Step/Grade Engagement in Learning (SL) On/Off Track

4/4 (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)

Well done Niswaba, you have included examples and key terms to explain the causes of uneven development clearly.

To make your answer even better

of drought for your second point as a comparison to the UK.

**Challenge Task:** Add the Somalia case study to show how environmental factors can limit development.

Another cause of uneven development is natural disasters, which is an environmental cause. The drought in Somalia from 2010-2012 caused famine and 250,000 died and 50% of them were children. It also caused people to become ill and malnourished; they can't work and can't attend school, meaning the country can't earn money. ✓ Good!

PEER / SELF-ASSESSMENT

Assessed by: Niswaba

Score/ Step / Grade: 4/4

WWW:

I added the Somalia case study to show the effects of drought on the country.

EBI can't write development to raise it from level 4 to level 5.

## Presentation of work:

Student workbooks are a child's best learning and revision resource. That is why we place such an importance of the presentation of work at the Academy.

Students are expected to take pride in their work and ensure they are presenting it in an appropriate way – clear titles and dates underlined.

Students will be given time in lessons to redraft their work in green pen in order to move their work forward, and respond to teacher feedback – this is an important part of making progress.

TopTip

**Parent Top Tip:** Take time to look at your child's workbooks with them – are they taking pride in their work and presenting it appropriately? Are there any targets you can set together to improve on the quality of work; or praise you can give to celebrate high quality presentation? Students respond well to having input from multiple adults on the quality of their learning.

## Home Learning:

One of the biggest changes students and parents will experience in Year 7 is online learning.

Home learning will be an important part of developing independent learning skills – an important skill for developing good exam and revision practices.

All home learning is set on the **Satchel One** app – parents and students are able to see the work set as well as teacher deadlines and submissions.

In the Autumn term, all year 7 are able to sign up to receive a Chromebook provided by the Academy. This is to support your child and their learning and we want to make sure that all students, no-matter their backgrounds, have equal access to the resources they need.

A good homework routine is crucial from the get go!



## Parent Top Tips:

- Use the Satchel One app regularly to check on your child's progress with home learning; make sure you check the time the teacher has allocated to the task
- Allocate a suitable space for students to complete their home learning in the home – is it free from distractions? Is their space for students to lay out the equipment and resources they need? Is it away from noise?
- Consider removing distractions from your child when it is home learning time – such as mobile phones
- Check the quality of work with your child – have they taken the same time, care and effort with presentation as you would expect with their workbooks?

# SUMMER WORK BOOKLETS

As part of our transition process we would like your child to complete the following task in order to support in their progress and development between primary and secondary school.

All students have been given a student induction and summer work pack; the packs include summer transition work that will help prepare students for their first English, Maths and Science sessions.

Students have the materials necessary to support them in this task but please find an overview of the tasks.

***Please ensure students bring their booklets back to the Academy on their first day in September.***

## **ENGLISH- Creative Writing**

- Students have been tasked with writing a short descriptive story about someone who is about to embark on a challenging or exciting experience.

They have been provided the following options but may create their own perspective if they so wish:

1. A scientist on the brink of a cure for cancer.
2. An explorer who is close to finding an uncharted city.
3. A student beginning a new school.
4. A sportsperson on the night before the final of a championship.

The success criteria has been included in the student's resources but is repeated here for your information:

- 200-300 words
- Descriptive and engaging
- Involved some of the five senses
- Is spelled and punctuated accurately with a variety of vocabulary and sentence structures

## **MATHS**

There are a range of questions from key topics that students would have seen in year 6 and will be helpful for the start of Year 7.

Each topic has three sections:

- Introduce questions are warm-up questions to practise the basics.
- Strengthen questions build your knowledge in key concepts.
- Deepen questions are more challenging reasoning and problem-solving questions.

Students should do all working out in the booklet provided.

## **SCIENCE**

Introduction to Science hazard symbols and apparatus.

Students have been asked to create a poster on a scientist of their choice using research from the internet. Their poster should include the following:

- Their name and where they are from
- Their discovery/research
- Interesting facts
- Why you think their work was/is important

# KEY APPS & WEBSITES

The Academy uses key apps and websites to help parents stay up to date with their child's progress and development and manage day-to-day administrative tasks, and handle school-related payments efficiently.

By using these platforms, parents can ensure they are always up-to-date with their child's educational activities, support their learning effectively, and communicate with teachers and school staff.

## 1. SIMS Parent App



The SIMS Parent App is a tool designed to keep parents connected with their child's educational progress and daily school life.

Parents can:

- Keep track of attendance, absences and lateness.
- Read student reports.
- See student timetables.

## 2. Satchel One



Satchel One, formerly known as Show My Homework, simplifies the management of homework and assignments for both parents and students.

Parents can:

- See a detailed overview of their child's homework, including due dates, instructions, and submission status.
- The platform also tracks attendance and behaviour, providing a comprehensive view of the child's school life.

## 3. ParentPay



ParentPay is a secure and convenient platform for managing school payments, ensuring parents can handle all financial transactions related to their child's education effortlessly.

Parents can:

- Pay for school meals, trips, and items from the Academy's online shop.
- View payment history, manage balances, and receive notifications about upcoming fees.

#### **4. Academy Policies**



Parents can conveniently access key policies via our website, ensuring they are informed about important guidelines and procedures related to their child's education.

Visit our webpage: <https://www.hammersmithacademy.org/information/policies/>



## Hammersmith Academy

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