



4th September 2026

Welcome Back – Academic Year 2026/27

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you and your family have had an enjoyable summer break. We are really looking forward to welcoming our students back to Ansford Academy the week commencing 7th September and beginning a positive and successful new academic year.

We celebrated once again record breaking GCSE results on the 20th August. Thanks to the tremendous dedication and hard work completed by both students and staff over the last two years, our students achieved fantastic results. We are immensely proud of them all and delighted that they are able to pursue their future ambitions post 16.

As we start the year, we want to ensure that expectations are clear and consistent from the outset. Strong routines, high expectations and a sense of belonging help students feel safe, settled and ready to learn. Working together as a school community – students, families and staff – is essential in helping our young people get things right from day one.

Uniform

As mentioned in the end of term letter to parents we ask for your support in ensuring that all students return to school in full and correct Ansford Academy uniform from their very first day.

Our uniform expectations are not simply about appearance. They help establish pride, belonging, equality, consistency and readiness to learn. When home and school give the same clear message, issues can be resolved quickly and valuable learning time is protected.

Please check the following before your child returns:

- **Footwear:** Plain black **school shoes only**. **Trainers are not permitted**, including all-black trainers.
- **Hair:** Hair should be an appropriate **natural colour**. Bright or extreme colours are not permitted.
- **Nails:** False/acrylic nails, stick-on nails and nail varnish are not permitted; nails must be kept at a safe and practical length and must not be excessively long, particularly for PE and practical subjects.
- **Nose/facial piercings:** Nose studs, nose rings and other facial piercings are not permitted and must be removed before arriving at school.
- **Jewellery:** One small stud (no hoops), worn in each ear lobe, no rings, bracelets or necklaces.

Uniform and presentations will be checked as students arrive at school and throughout the school day. Where an issue can be corrected immediately, students will be expected to do so. Where appropriate, the Academy may provide an alternative item of uniform for a student to wear.



Continued or deliberate refusal to meet the Academy's uniform expectations will be treated as defiance of Academy expectations and may result in sanctions, including internal isolation, until the matter is resolved.

We very much hope that this will not be necessary. Our preference will always be to work positively with students and families to resolve concerns quickly and get students back to learning.

Please see links to [uniform expectations](#) and our [equipment list](#).

We recognise that there may be occasions when a student is unable to meet a particular uniform expectation for a genuine medical reason. Where this applies, parents/carers must provide current medical evidence and communicate with their child's Head of Year before the start of term, wherever possible. This enables appropriate arrangements to be considered and agreed in advance and prevents students being unnecessarily challenged about an issue that has already been discussed.

Mobile Devices – Yondr Pouches

The new Yondr Pouches will be issued to students on their first day back.

Students must bring their Yondr pouch to school every day and follow the Academy's procedures for securing their mobile devices. Mobile devices must remain secured and out of use throughout the school day.

This is an important part of creating a calm, focused and disruption-free learning environment, while encouraging positive face-to-face interaction between students.

Failure to follow the Yondr/mobile devices expectations will result in appropriate sanctions in line with the Academy's behaviour procedures.

We ask parents and carers to support us by reinforcing these expectations at home. As mentioned in my previous letter, if you need to get an urgent message to your child during the school day, please contact the Academy.

Attendance – Every Day Matters

Excellent attendance is fundamental to achievement, wellbeing and belonging. At Ansford Academy, our expectation is that students maintain at least 95% attendance.

There is a clear relationship between attendance and attainment. When students are absent, they miss direct teaching, learning, relationships and opportunities that cannot always be recreated. Even relatively small amounts of absence can accumulate quickly and have a significant impact on progress.



We ask parents and carers to support us by ensuring students:

- Aim for **95% attendance or above**.
- Arrive at school **every day and on time**.
- Attend whenever they are well enough to do so.
- Avoid unnecessary absence and holidays during term time.

If there are barriers making regular attendance difficult, please talk to us early. Our Attendance Team, Tutors and Heads of Year will work alongside students and families to understand the barriers, identify appropriate support and help improve attendance.

Every day matters. Every lesson matters. Being in school makes a difference.

September provides us all with an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of last year and look forward to those ahead of us. We want our students to arrive feeling welcomed, supported and ready to succeed.

Your support makes a significant difference. When families, students and school work together, we create the consistency our young people need to thrive.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to welcoming our students back to Ansford Academy next week and to a happy, successful and productive 2026/27 academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Karl Musson

Headteacher