



Our Ref: CDC/CBO
5 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I am excited to welcome your child to Chantry Academy. Our key theme for this year is “driven to be ambitious”. Everyday your child will be challenged to be the best version of themselves.

Our standards are not defined by our words but by our actions and our behaviours. If we accept low standards, we will inevitably manifest low standards. Our children deserve the highest standards, they also need to behave with the highest standards.

Year 7 will arrive on Wednesday 6 September and will be joined by the remainder of the school on Thursday 7 September.

Arrangements for 7 September

Year 8 and 10 will arrive from 8.10am via the rear entrance of the school in the playground. They will line up at 8.25am and be escorted to their form rooms by their form tutor.

Year 9 and 11 will arrive from 8.10am via the front of school. They will line up at 8.25am and be escorted to their form rooms by their form tutor.

Last term I wrote to you outlining our approach to behaviour, uniform (including make-up and piercings), electronic devices and attendance. Please ensure your child is prepared meet our expectations in all these areas.

If you are having difficulty in securing correct uniform, we have a limited supply which we can access. We expect all students to be in correct uniform. Over the next two days we are expecting hotter than usual weather. However, the building whilst warm is well ventilated and we expect students to move around the school whilst wearing their blazer. They can remove their blazer whilst in lessons.

In terms of attendance, our expectation is that students attend at least 95% of the time – please note that 95% attendance means that students have missed 10 days of learning, so ideally we would like students to be in school more than 95% of the time. With this in mind, it will now be a requirement for students to have at least 95% attendance to represent the school in sports teams, performances, school leadership roles and to be considered for rewards activities such as end of term trips etc.

Please see the following link for information that Suffolk County Council have provided regarding attendance issues [School attendance - Suffolk County Council](#), in particular I would like to draw your attention to the section about taking leave without permission from the school:

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Chantry is an Active Learning Trust Academy. Registered in England: Company Number: 7903002
Registered Office: The Active Learning Trust, Cromwell Community College, Wenny Road, Chatteris, PE16 6UU
VAT Registration Number GB 381 756 763



If your child goes on holiday in term time or takes leave of absence without prior permission from the school, the absences will be marked in the school register as an unauthorised absence and may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.

The Local Authority strongly encourages parents to take holidays or leave of absence for other reasons during the school holidays, rather than during term time.

Schools are closed for 13 weeks a year it should not normally be necessary for children to miss school for these reasons.

Any leave of absence requests should be made to the school and leave of absence granted in only the most exceptional circumstances.

With regards to medical or other appointments that your child may have during school hours, ***please be advised that students will only be allowed to leave school premises if a parent/carer or nominated person collects them from the main office.***

I am delighted and relieved to reassure you that following the recent events surrounding school buildings, our school does not contain RAAC within the structure.

Over the last year the school has managed to hold the meal prices in line with previous years, however, this is no longer possible. We have increased the price of our food by a small margin as an example the meal deal has now moved to £2.50.

We expect all our students in years 9-11 to bring their laptops to lessons and fully charged at the beginning of the day. They will be using them throughout the week.

Students in year 7 and 8 will receive their laptops this term. There has been a delay in procuring a sufficiently high enough specification at the right price. This will be the last year that the school can afford to provide free laptops for students. In following years, we are looking for an affordable alternative scheme, this will not affect any students already issued with a laptop or who will receive one this year.

We also welcome some new faces to the academy alongside some regular faces with new roles. We would like to welcome Mr Lummas as a caretaker. Mrs Howle as an LSA and Mrs Knights as a midday supervisor. We can also welcome Mr Lake as Head of ICT, Mr W Hanson and Mr Potter in History and Miss Pettman in Science.

Alongside new staff Ms McArdle has changed her role to Acting Assistant Principal, Mrs Conroy as teacher of English, Miss Marsh as exams and data officer and Mr Gilling as an LSA. Finally, Mrs Manhertz is now known as Miss Wilson.

I look forward to what will be an excellent year for your child and the whole Chantry community, together with a common set of standards we will be able to ensure your child will finish this year with ambition and the skills for further success.

Yours faithfully

C D'Cunha

Mr D'Cunha
Executive Headteacher

