



**THE MILTON  
KEYNES ACADEMY**

*Creative  
Education  
Trust*

# Newsletter

## Issue 6: 23.07.25

Dear families,

We have enjoyed another successful term and academic year at the Milton Keynes Academy, and these last few weeks of Summer Term have been full of joy, with students participating in Sports Day, Rewards Trips, Assemblies, Enrichment activities, and many more.

We are especially proud of our students, staff and parents/carers being recognised for our journey and celebrating the 'Good' judgement in all areas from Ofsted. This is a huge milestone for the Academy and we have already embraced our next steps in our quest to travel from 'Good to Great'. Please see the below links, the first being our formal, published Ofsted report and secondly a newspaper article in MK Citizen:

<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50279762>

<https://www.miltonkeynes.co.uk/education/new-ofsted-report-celebrates-transformation-at-milton-keynes-academy-5236227#:~:text=New%20Ofsted%20report%20celebrates%20transformation%20at%20Milton%20Keynes%20Academy,-By%20Clara%20Plackett&text=From%20'Requires%20Improvement'%20to%20',an%20inspection%20in%20May%202025.>

We would be grateful if you could read the following messages carefully, sharing with your child as appropriate:

**Our new Year 7 students only will be starting on Wednesday 3rd September; all other students (Years 8-11) will be starting on Thursday 4th September.** Please be reminded that holidays during term time are unauthorised. **Attending the Academy every day is essential to supporting and maximising progress. We have high standards with above National average attendance figures.**

Teaching staff and support staff are continuing to offer an extensive enrichment programme during the 45 minute lunch period from September, which includes clubs such as:

Debate club, origami, boys gym, girls gym, rounders, table tennis, Sparx challenge, English support, graphics, Spanish, card making, Book club, German, STEM, quiz, music, Italian, football analysis, French, art, MKA magazine and calligraphy. You will be able to book your child onto a club via Arbor and further details will follow in the new academic year.

Please be reminded that students require the correct learning equipment, the uniform policy must be adhered to and the behaviour policy must be followed.

Calm learning environments indicate that our classrooms have continued to become more purposeful as we shift to enable your child to make rapid progress and engage in disruption free learning. Most students understand and follow all rules to enable disruption free learning consistently and we thank you for your support with this.

**We are truly proud of how our students embody the Academy values and deliver extensive character curriculum to understand them:**

**Respect   Responsibility   Aspiration   Resilience   Equality**

I would like to thank all parents/carers for their support in beholding our high expectations, they are to the huge benefit of all students here at MKA. Wishing you all a restful summer holidays.

Kind regards,  
Mr Billington, Vice Principal



# School day timings:

The Milton Keynes Academy School Day 2025-26		
Timings:	Activity:	Duration:
08:35	Gates closed – transition time	5 minutes
08:40 - 09:05	Literacy Tutor Programme (Year 7-10) Masterclass Tutor Programme (Year 11) Year Group Assemblies (Year 7-11)	25 minutes
09:05 - 09:09	Transition	4 minutes
09:09 - 10:09	First Period	60 minutes
10:09 - 10:29	Break Time (last 4 minutes for transition)	20 minutes
10:29 - 11:29	Second Period	60 minutes
11:29 - 11:33	Transition	4 minutes
11:33 - 12:33	Third Period	60 minutes
12:33 - 13:18	Lunch Time (last 4 minutes for transition)	45 minutes
13:18 - 14:18	Fourth period	60 minutes
14:18 - 14:22	Transition time	4 minutes
14:22 - 15:22	Fifth Period	60 minutes
15:22 - 16:07	Sixth Period for Interventions and Extra-Curricular Clubs	45 minutes
15:22 - 16:22	Detentions	30 and 60 minutes

## Uniform and attendance:

Please see the link for our uniform policy: <https://www.miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk/main/parents/uniform>

**There is one amendment; students can now wear plain black trainers as an alternative to traditional black leather school shoes. Students can also choose to wear black leather school shoes as previously. The trainers must be plain black with no colour flashes or large logos. Please note this change has occurred as a result of student voice being listened to and acted on.**

Students can dye hair a toned-down red, all other colours must be natural Please note that other fluorescent colours are not permitted.

**Please be reminded that leggings and additional piercings are not permitted. Please do not get additional piercings towards the end of summer holiday, they will have to be removed.**

We have had an extremely successful year with our whole school attendance having finished above the National Average for both overall attendance and persistent absence. Our new rewards and recognition incentives has seen iPads awarded across the academic year during our half termly raffle ticket draws.

Students have attended one or more of our monthly attendance drive rewards events as well as Year Group trips to laser tag, bowling, Nando's and the cinema. Thank you to all parent and carers for your support with attendance this year and we look forward to beating this years attendance during the next academic Year!

Any student absence should be reported by calling our attendance team on 01908 341793 or emailing [attendance@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk) and not directly to your child's Year Team.



We are Ofsted rated 'Good' in all areas:



### **Ofsted report key findings:**

- The school's values are "prominent in everyday interactions."
- Staff "swiftly and accurately" identify the needs of pupils with SEND and provide effective support.
- Behaviour has "improved significantly," with clear expectations and targeted support.
- The school's personal development programme is described as a "shining strength," helping pupils understand how to stay safe and develop positive character traits.
- Leaders and trust representatives have a clear understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development.
- Staff feel "highly positive" about working at the school and value the focus on wellbeing and professional development.

### **Staff sadly leaving us:**

We would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to some of our teaching staff and support staff:

Mr Lancaster, Mr Whitmore, Mrs Joy-Lendor, Miss Pagni, Ms Griffin and Miss Da Silva.

We would particularly like to acknowledge Mr Lancaster who is a longstanding members of staff; . You have both inspired hundreds of students and staff during your journey over the years and we wish you all the best for your future.

Mr Whitmore and Mrs Joy-Lendor teaching and long term support of students through Pastoral leadership has been relentless and inspiring. Thank you for everything you have done.

We would like to wish all members of staff leaving a very enjoyable summer holidays and a well earned rest. Good luck in your next adventures!



# Safeguarding team:

The Safeguarding Team at Milton Keynes Academy				
				
Academy Principal	Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)	Young Carers Champion and Deputy DSL	Senior Safeguarding Officer	Safeguarding Officer
<b>Mr G Farquhar</b> T: 41772	<b>Ms E Ruffles</b> T: 41721	<b>Miss K Watkins</b> T: 50983	<b>Ms J Barkus</b> T: 41730	<b>Ms J Griffin</b> T: 41732
Email: <a href="mailto:MKA-Safeguarding@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk">MKA-Safeguarding@miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk</a> Location: Explore Village- Office Room 1.65C Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) – 01908 254 300 - Kay Newman and Deborah Young				

## Additional Safeguarding Key Contacts

				
Milton Keynes Academy	Milton Keynes Academy	Milton Keynes Academy	Academy Council	Creative Education Trust (CET)
Mental Health Support Team	Attendance Manager	Vice Principal Pastoral	Safeguarding Governor	Director of Safeguarding
Miss A Wong	Mrs R Hazell	Mr G Billington	Dawn Howard	Louis Donald
<b>Milton Keynes MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)</b> <b>01908 253169/01908 253 170 out of hours 01908 265545.</b>				

The purpose of our safeguarding team is to protect and support students, staff, and visitors. They can help prevent abuse, harm or neglect occurring, by protecting the safety of everyone within school.

If you have any concerns or would like to speak to a member of the safeguarding team, please do not hesitate in getting in touch.



Play Ranger sessions will run every week, starting next week, throughout the holidays as per the poster. There will be Sports and other activities suitable for all ages.

There will also be two free family fun days: Peartree Bridge Family Picnic 30th July 11-3 and Wheelie Big Picnic 20th August at Two Halls Park, Coffee Hall.

Advice & Wellbeing team schedule |

Day	Project	Project	Project
Monday	WFU 9.30-12 @99 *Not 11 <sup>th</sup> & 18 <sup>th</sup> August	Wellbeing officer Appointments 9-12 @99	Advice Officer <a href="#">appointments 9-2</a> @99 am. 9-12 Netherfield <a href="#">Café 1-2</a>
	Wellbeing Mental Health Officer remote appointments 9-2		
Tuesday	Advice & Wellbeing Drop-in 10-12 @no99 no appointment required	Advice officer appointments 1-4 various locations by arrangement	Wellbeing Mental Health Officer <a href="#">appointments</a> @ Wellbeing Room 12-2
Wednesday	Advice Officer Outreach Hedgerows 10-12 (appts)	Advice Officer Outreach Eaglestone Café 2-3	Wellbeing Mental Health Officer 9-2 remote or face to face <a href="#">appointments</a> by arrangement
Thursday	Wellbeing Art Drop-in 10-11.30 @99	Advice Officer appointments 9-12 @99 1-5 various locations by arrangement	
Friday	Wellbeing Walk 9.30-10.30 Start at no99	Advice Officer appointments 9-12 / 10.30-12 fortnightly.	
<p>This is the weekly schedule that will continue throughout the summer holidays. If Netherfield &amp; Eaglestone Cafes are running the Advice office will attend as per schedule. Team annual leave will cause some minor changes during this <a href="#">time</a> but we will update on socials weekly.</p>			

Day	Project- HAF	Project- WCC
Monday	<a href="#">Trip day</a>	Play Rangers
	<a href="#">Gullivers 28<sup>th</sup> July</a> <a href="#">Whipsnade 4<sup>th</sup> August</a> <a href="#">Emberton 11<sup>th</sup> August</a> <a href="#">Gullivers 18<sup>th</sup> August</a>	11.30-12.30 Tinkers Bridge 1.30-3.00 Coffee Hall  *NOTE Whipsnade is also a WCC project so no Play Rangers on Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> August.
Tuesday	Phoenix Arts 5 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Play Rangers
	Climbquest 29 <sup>th</sup> July & 12 <sup>th</sup> August	11-12.30 Netherfield 1.30-3.00 Beanhill
Wednesday	UTu camps 30 <sup>th</sup> July & 13 <sup>th</sup> August	<a href="#">Events</a> Peartree Bridge Family Picnic 11-3 @ the Dinosaur Field – 30 <sup>th</sup> July Wheelie Big Picnic 11-3 @ Two Halls Park & Community Garden 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug
	Music Camp 1 6 <sup>th</sup> August	
Thursday	Music Camp 2 7 <sup>th</sup> August	Play Rangers / Youth Club  Eaglestone 1.15-2.30 (8-12yrs) 2.45-3.45 (13yrs +)
Friday	<a href="#">Bikeability EAC</a> 8 <sup>th</sup> August	
	Music Camp 3 8 <sup>th</sup> August	
	<a href="#">Bikeability NMP</a> 15 <sup>th</sup> August	
	Music Camp 3	



The YMCA Youth Club have also provided support during this term:

## Community Lunch

We hold our Community Lunches monthly at our YMCA Milton Keynes campus from 12:00-1:30pm.

No agenda, just a chance for any would be friends to get to know us better, and existing friends to come and say hello. All welcome and the more the merrier.

Light refreshments will be served.

Lookout for important dates and themed events coming up over the year.



July Community Lunch:

🍴 Please come along to our Community Lunch on Thursday 21st August at 12.00pm 🍴

Our Community Lunches are open to everyone. There is no cost and no agenda. Just an opportunity for the local community to come together over lunch.

Events this term have included:

- Year 8 cricket trip
- Year 7 Ninja Warrior trip
- All Years Thorpe Park trips
- Year 9 Buckingham University trip
- Year 8 careers events
- Year 7 and 8 STEM road show
- Year 8 SEND Foundation interventions
- Year 10 Work Experience
- Year 7 careers events
- Year 11 prom
- Year 11 leavers assembly
- Year 9 Brunel University trip
- MKA Awards evening
- Diversity Day
- Food Festival
- Year 7 afternoon tea party
- Year 9 careers events
- Afternoon tea with the Mayor and prefects
- Attendance parties



Please see what the **Mayor of Milton Keynes City** had to say about our wonderful **Student Leadership Team** when conducting a recent visit of the Academy and afternoon tea event.

We are extremely proud of the Student Leadership Team and all our students for representing the Academy values when meeting the Mayor!

🎓 MK Academy Prefects – So proud to see the next generation of leaders stepping up with confidence and purpose to all they offer at this wonderful school! It was great to learn their journey into their roles for the students, and they were a pure delight to meet with! Thank you for having me!

**Students Leadership opportunities in 2025-26:**

Prefect positions available to students will expand!

Students from Year 7-11 will have opportunity to apply as Prefects. There will also be Student Leadership Positions available in every subject.

We are developing a student reception support positions which will provide opportunity for students on a rota to have responsibility in the operation of the Academy.

We will have a team of Student Leaders focussed on supporting environmental change and how we can use our Academy site.

**House competitions:**

A range of house competitions will start from September with new drive on interform competition. This will start with a Sports competition, but different themes will be launched through year, all with opportunities to win points for your house.

House assemblies will also launch in September!



This term we have been involved in many rewards trips and enrichment opportunities!

Every year group has had over 90 students attend Thorpe Park!

We held our Food Festival on the field which was a great success with many free food tickets given away. Thank you to everyone who attended this MKA community event.

Our Year 11s celebrated the end of their time at MKA with a leavers assembly and Prom. Please be reminded that results day is on the 21st August, we look forward to seeing you back in school.

## Sporting news:

The P.E Department took a number students to represent MKA in the MK Athletics competition. This is always one of our highlights of the year, our students love to trial for this event to get a spot in the team.

It was an amazing day and our students made us very proud. The students wore the MKA badge with pride, they were respectful, supportive of one another, resilient and responsible. They displayed equality throughout the day and the atmosphere was wonderful.

There were 15 schools in total, and we came first in high jump, long jump and 800m! Well done to all involved!

Sports Day: this took place on Monday and Wednesday this week, and the MKA spirit was evident in spades. The students cheered each other on while competitors fiercely pitted against each other.

We had a range of events that took place over the two days including track, field, tug of war, obstacle, and many more!

A big well done to all the students that took part, despite the weather.



Upcoming dates:

3rd September 2025—Year 7s first day of the academic year

4th September 2025—Whole school first day of the academic year

24th October 2025—Last day of half term

3rd November 2025—First day back

19th December 2025 —Last Day of Term

6th January 2026—First day back

30th January 2026—Teacher training day

13th February 2026—Last day of half term

23rd February 2026—First day back

27th March 2026— Last day of term

13th April 2026—First day back

4th May 2026—Bank Holiday (school closed)

25th May 2026—Bank Holiday (school closed)

22nd May 2026—Last day of half term

1st June 2026—First day back

17th July 2026—Last day of the Academic year

Please see the school website link below for the Academy dates via a calendar format:

[https://www.miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Term-Dates-2025\\_26-1.pdf](https://www.miltonkeynesacademy.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Term-Dates-2025_26-1.pdf)

Thank you for your continued support, good luck to our Year 11s on their next adventures, we are incredibly proud of what you have achieved and what your futures hold.

Have a restful Summer break and we look forward to welcoming you back in September in our continued journey on **'Good to Great'**.

Yours Sincerely,

Glenn Billington | Vice Principal | Milton Keynes Academy