



Relentlessly Pursuing Excellence

Parent Bulletin - 31st March 2023

Headteacher Update:

Dear Parents & Carers

I write to you at the beginning of what is the beginning of a well deserved Easter break. This half term has been a particularly busy one, with preparation for the Year 11 exams in full swing and the final preparations for the school show taking place. We ended the half term by holding celebration assemblies where we celebrated the academic and personal achievements of students in each year group.

The end of a term is always a good moment for us to pause and reflect on the academic year so far. Whilst there are many things that we have to celebrate there are some things that we need to ensure reflect our high standards and high expectations as we relentlessly pursue excellence at Great Wyrley Academy. So, I am going to take this opportunity to remind parents, carers and students of some of those expectations in readiness for a fresh start after the Easter break.

Firstly, I would like to discuss uniform. Details of the school uniform and what is appropriate for school can be found in further detail using the following link, there have been no changes to the uniform <https://www.greatwyrleyacademy.org.uk/school-life/essential-information/school-uniform/?query=unifor>

I must remind you that leggings and trainers are not part of the school uniform. Any student who comes to school wearing incorrect uniform will be placed in refocus, students will be given an opportunity to borrow uniform for the day or until it is rectified and returned to lessons. If students or parents refuse then students will remain in refocus until the issue is rectified.

Acrylic, false nails or brightly coloured nail varnish of any kind are also not allowed. Students who do not abide by this will also be placed into refocus until the issue is rectified. There has been an increase in complaints from parents and carers who have paid to have their child's nails done and whilst I sympathise that this is expensive just for them to have them removed, students will not be allowed into the school population whilst wearing them and will be asked to remove them as soon as possible.

Secondly, mobile phones are also not permitted. Any student who is seen with a mobile phone will have this confiscated for the day. Currently this can be collected at the end of the day from reception. Students who refuse to hand over their phone to a member of staff will be placed into refocus. I ask you to remind your child that phones are not to be seen and whilst we are happy for them to be carried on their person, they are not to be used during the school day.

Finally, I would like to remind parents and carers of some of the behaviour sanctions that are in place alongside the Aspire rewards points that students can receive throughout the school day. Students will be reminded of all of the above during their return to school assembly the first week back. Below is a

simple table that outlines some of the more prevalent behaviours that we are currently experiencing that are having a real impact on progress in lessons.

Behaviour Type	Sanction
Late to school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch time detention (same day) • Escalates to after school next day if students don't attend
Late to lesson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x late to lesson in 1 day = lunchtime detention the next day • Upscaled to after school detention (next day) if fail to attend • Upscaled to refocus periods 1 - 6 the next day if fail to attend
Truancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After school detention the next day • Upscaled to after school detention (next day) if fail to attend • Upscaled to refocus periods 1 - 6 (next day) if fail to attend
No iPad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch time detention (same day) • Upscaled to after school detention (next day) if fail to attend
Not attending after school detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upscaled to refocus periods 1 - 6 (next day) if fail to attend

***Students who receive 5 warnings during a school week will be placed onto form tutor report.**

It is important to remember that students can be rewarded each lesson and during social time for demonstrating particular character or learner skills as shown in our Aspire framework below. Students can then use these reward points to claim a variety of rewards which can be found in the rewards section of the class charts app.



To finish my update this week I would like to thank you in advance for your support with all of the above. As we continue to strive to be the very best that we can be, it is of the utmost importance that we maintain those high standards. I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and I hope that

you and your family have a restful break. I look forward to seeing all the students as we return to school on Monday 17th April.



Mrs K Moore
Headteacher

School Events for this week:

School Show: A huge congratulations to all of the students and staff involved in the school production of The Addams Family. Students performed three nights in a row to packed out audiences. We look forward to hearing what next year's show might be in the new term.

Launch of Year 11 subject work plans: Year 11 have been given their individualised subject revision plans complete with an overview of content for each remaining lesson.

Year 11 "My tutor" launch: Over 30 students will be taking part in one to one, online tutoring through My Tutor for Maths, English and Science over the Easter holidays. Well done to all those students who are participating.

School Senate Visit: Mr McFarlane took the school senate to our central trust offices to meet with the CEO to discuss some of the prominent school issues. The senate represented GWA and gave a valuable insight into some of the fabulous things happening and highlighted some good suggestions for areas for improvement. We look forward to seeing how this develops.

Sports fixtures: Year 7 and 8 girls played at home on Wednesday against Perton Middle School. The girls pulled off a brilliant performance. GO GIRLS!

Please click here to go to the [News and blog page](#) of the website

Curriculum Updates for this week:

Throughout the whole Spring Challenge competition, students answered 75,000 questions. An average of 178.3 questions were answered per student, which puts us in at a final 24th place in our category — a great effort. Coming just ahead of us was an all-through school in China with an average of 182.0 questions!

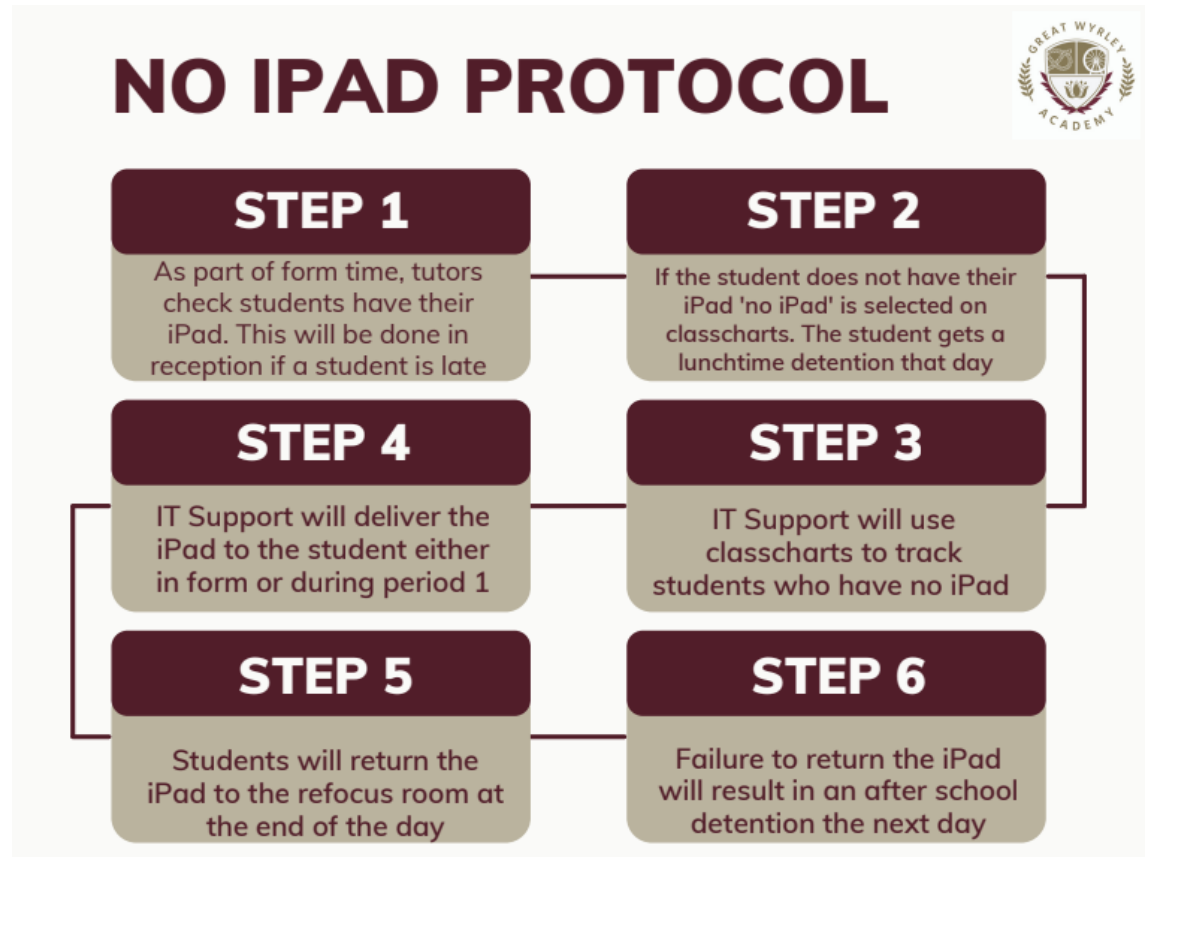


Cycle 3 begins when students return after Easter. This is a 10 week period of time where new knowledge is taught so it is absolutely essential that you attend all lessons at all times - EVERY LESSON COUNTS. Missed lessons during the first week back will significantly hinder your progress in lessons.

Ipads

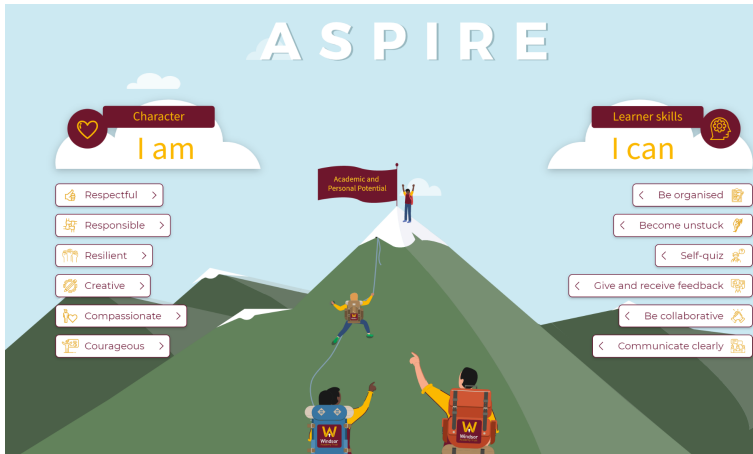
Students must have ipads every day in school that are charged fully to allow them to access their lessons.

Below is the process for students who do not have their ipads each day



Student Services Updates for this week:

Great Wyrley Academy students have received over 1500 aspire points this week. The top 3 character virtues and learner skills demonstrated this week are being **collaborative**, being **respectful** and **communicating clearly**. They have demonstrated a great deal of respect for each other and collaborated to improve their knowledge and understanding of key topics after assessments.



Respectful	277
Communicate clearly	236
Be collaborative	192
Be organised	174
Responsible	161
Creative	107
Self-quiz	104
Become unstuck	84
Resilient	80
Give and receive feedback	76
Compassionate	53
Courageous	28
Total	1572



All students have been involved in awards assemblies today. Prizes were awarded for the following reasons:

- 94 students achieved 100% attendance this term
- The student with the most aspire points in each form group
- The student with the most aspire points in each category above
- Form tutor award
- Head of Year award
- Most nuggets completed successfully on Century Tech
- Special recognition awards

Well done to everyone for aspiring highly!



Parents can use the ClassCharts app to view positive behaviour points as well as any negative sanctions that are given to their child. If you need help setting this up please contact the school.