



Atlantic Academy Portland

an Aspirations Academy

Miss Heppell - Principal of Primary
Mrs Bishop - Principal of Secondary

Maritime House
Southwell Business Park
Portland, Dorset. DT5 2NA

Tel: 01305 820262
Email: Office@atlantic-aspirations.org

www.atlantic-aspirations.org

July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

This academic year has certainly had its challenges as we all adjusted to our new leadership this half term; as you may be aware, Miss M Heppell became the Principal of Atlantic Academy for Primary Phase and Mrs L Bishop became the Principal of Atlantic Academy for Secondary phase. We are both committed to building upon the work done so far and continuing to develop our culture and style of education. Your honest feedback and communication as always has been instrumental, and we are detailing more initiatives to channel this to support further improvements. We may not always agree on everything, but we are here to listen and to explain our ideas and reasoning.

As we reach the end of an extraordinarily busy year, we are writing to share some important information about the end of term and the beginning of the next academic year. This year has been filled with such fantastic events and student achievements that the time has flown by. We continue to be incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm, hard work and compassion of all the students who dedicate themselves to their school work and extra-curricular activities. They are the real heart of the school.

It has been a very busy summer term at Atlantic and, after a full and successful year, the summer term ends on **Tuesday 23rd July** when the school will close at **3.05pm**.

The arrangements for the start of the new term are as follows: on **Wednesday 4th September** all students should arrive at **8.20am** for their first day of the 2019-20 academic year.

Staffing Update At the end of a second successful year for Atlantic Academy, we wish to give you a staffing update for September 2019:

Goodbyes:

- *Mrs Bain*, Head of Maths, decided to step down this year to focus on being a maths teacher and to spend time with her family. We would like to thank her for her support over the last two years and wish her every success in her new role.
- *Mrs Bird*, Early Years Teacher, will be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to thank Mrs Bird for all her support within the Early Years Foundation Stage and wish her all the best in her future career.
- *Mrs Cahill*, Teacher of English, has decided to explore her interests in a school in Poole. We would like to thank her for the contribution she has made and wish her every success for the future.
- *Mrs Childs*, Primary Year 1 teacher, will be leaving us to work in another local Primary School in Weymouth. We would like to thank her for her commitment over the past 10 years working on Portland and wish her all the very best in her new role.
- *Mr Magee*, Primary Year 2 teacher, will sadly be leaving us as he embarks on a global teaching career in Doha. We wish him every success and hope he manages to catch a football match or two!
- *Mrs Martin*, Science Teacher, will be leaving us to pursue a different career closer to her home. We would like to wish her all the best in her next adventure and thank her for all of her hard work and support this past year.
- *Mr Mitchell*, Primary Year 5 teacher, will be looking for exciting challenges next year as he moves to a new role as a Secondary Maths teacher. We wish him all the very best with his new adventure and thank him for all the support he has offered over the past year.
- *Miss Shone*, Teacher of PE, will be leaving us to teach Science. We would like to thank Miss Shone for her support over the past 6 months and wish her every success in her new role.



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- *Mr Sleight*, Teacher of Maths, will be leaving us to move back to London and pursue his teaching career there. We would like to thank Mr Sleight for his hard work, commitment and energy; we wish him luck in his new ventures.
- *Mrs Winter*, Primary Year 6 teacher, will be leaving us to start her maternity leave in September. We look forward to her returning to the team next year.

As some staff leave, we also welcome new colleagues to our team:

Primary

- *Miss Chant*, **Year 1 Teacher**
- *Mrs Richardson*, **Year 3 Teacher returning after a sabbatical**
- *Mr Dalby*, **Year 3 Teacher**
- *Mr Ekers*, **Year 5 Teacher**
- *Mrs Dalby*, **Year 6 Teacher**

Secondary /All through

- *Ms Detterick*, **Director of English**, joined us this term and has brought with her a wealth of experience, enthusiasm and energy. Her role will be to oversee English across the academy and to add capacity to our senior leadership team.
- *Mr Parkes*, **Head of History**
- *Mrs Wheatland*, **Director of Maths**, is an incredibly experienced Maths teacher and senior leader in London and is relocating to Dorset. Her role will be to oversee Maths across the Academy and to add capacity to our senior leadership team.
- *Miss Westlake*, **Teacher of PE and MFL**
- *Mr Wiles*, **Teacher of Science**

Communications: we constantly monitor and look at how best to improve communication channels, particularly if we get to the point where you may feel it necessary to use an alternative form of communication, such as social media. Please remember that the first point of contact is always the **Pastoral Lead, Mrs Bullin (KS3); Mrs Bourke (KS4), Behaviour Coordinator Mr Knight (all through) or Deputy Head of Primary Mrs Hill**, using the [Contact Form](#) on the Academy website. Using this form means that we will aim to respond within 24 hours to your email. We are also developing **initiatives to support communication** further as detailed below.

Faculty Directors for 2019-20 - another form of contact if required

- [Blue Faculty Mrs Miglari](#)
- [Orange Faculty Miss Board](#)
- [Green Faculty Ms Winsborough](#)
- [Behaviour Faculty Mr Dawson](#)

Parent Voice: Mrs Hendrie will be forming a new group which will have a representative parent from each Academy year group. This group will meet regularly to provide feedback and support around some specific areas. Please email Mrs Hendrie at shendrie@atlantic-aspirations.org if you would like further details.

Principal Academy drop in sessions: The Principals will be available for 10 minute drop in meetings on published dates in the new academic year. We will organise these around drop off and collection times where possible.

Principal Community drop in sessions: Again, dates, times and locations for these sessions will be published. Community sessions will be hosted in cafes around Portland. If you are interested in hosting a session, please contact Mrs Clayton on eclayton@atlantic-aspirations.org

Academy In Action Tour: Throughout the year we have offered 'Academy In Action' tours, where any member of the public can book a place to see the usual style of lesson and the calm, purposeful atmosphere that is allowing our students to flourish. The feedback from these has been great. We would love to give you a tour of our fantastic academy; please see our website for [Tour dates and contact form](#), phone the academy, or email eclayton@atlantic-aspirations.org to book yourself on a tour.

Uniform: We welcome your continued support in ensuring your child leaves for school in the correct uniform. We work hard to remind students of the uniform code and ensure that it is adhered to. The summer holiday is often the time when parents look to replace items of school uniform and, to help in this, we are [attaching our uniform list](#) for parents, so that appropriate items are purchased with particular attention to appropriate skirt length. Bespoke items must be ordered through the [Brigade](#) website and more information can be found [here](#).

Online safety during the summer holidays: We encourage our students and parents to remain vigilant and alert during the summer holiday when not at school. Online safety remains an important issue and we advise parents to work with their children to ensure they are safe on the internet, particularly when using social media websites. Excellent advice can be found on <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>. Any safeguarding concerns can be reported to the Designated Safeguarding Lead and deputy in school time.

Homework: Please note that no homework is set over the Summer Holiday.

As we reach the end of a very busy year, we have the opportunity to reflect on the many achievements and successes of our students. Thank you again for your continued support and for your involvement in the life of the school. We look forward to 2019-20 being even more successful!

May we take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Bishop
Principal of Secondary



Miss M Heppell
Principal of Primary



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