



# Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

RMCG/KRE

8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

It is an absolute pleasure to write my first letter to you for this academic year. I'd like to thank you all for your support with the initial Covid testing and for ensuring your children are wearing the correct academy uniform. If you are having any issues at all with anything to do with academy services such as ParentPay etc please do let us know so we can resolve them.

### **Attendance**

Day to day attendance to the academy is vital, after 18 months of significant disruption students cannot afford to miss days at school. Covid symptoms aside, if your child is feeling a bit rough in the morning please do send them in or if they take the morning off but feel better later please send them in. Once a child has been absent they can never get 100% attendance back.

### **Punctuality**

The academy doors open at 8.30am for lessons starting at 8.35am. If students arrive after this time they will be classed as late and will receive an after school detention the following day for 30 minutes. Fortunately, the number of students who are late is very low, but I would prefer that no students have to be in detention for something within their control.

### **Homework**

Home learning is a vital part of academic performance, learning and recall and is something we take very seriously at the Academy. We have formulated a homework timetable as part of our continued drive to improve academic standards. The rationale behind this is to help manage student workload, to provide a clear focus for each evening and to provide a clear and precise timetable for you and your child to follow. Homework will be allocated on a set daily basis (based upon the government guidelines of what students should be doing each day after school). Homework will be allocated either as a paper copy or via Microsoft Teams depending on the subject or teacher.

You will notice that if students keep to the daily timetable in Key Stage 3, they don't have to work on Friday or over the weekend. This, however, also allows a buffer if students do need to spend a little longer completing their tasks if necessary. In Key Stage 4, homework is reduced on a Friday and once again weekends are kept for family time. Whilst obviously students will have the opportunity to utilise this time for exam preparation when appropriate. Students need to record their homework on the appropriate day in their Student Planners, parents are required to sign the planners each week, as well as their Form Tutor. We are hoping that by creating this timetable students will show greater independence but will also find it easier to manage their workload (a life skill that they can carry with them into further education and the world of work).

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Year:	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>7</b> Up to 30 mins per subject	English Maths Science	History Geography Spanish	RE DT Art	ICT Music Drama	
<b>8</b> Up to 30 minutes per subject	History Geography Spanish	RE DT Art	ICT Music Drama	English Maths Science	
<b>9</b> Up to 40 mins per subject	RE DT Art	ICT Music Drama	English Maths Science	History Geography Spanish	
<b>10</b>	Science	PSHCE Option 1	Option 2 Option 3	English	Maths
<b>11</b>	Maths	Science	PSHCE Option 1	Option 2 Option 3	English

## Co-Curriculum

At Morton Academy we want to provide students with a range of after school activities. We are delighted to reintroduce our Co-Curriculum which is designed to offer experiences and opportunities which work alongside our taught curriculum. These after school clubs will be hour-long sessions on various days of the week that students can sign up for. These clubs run for a five-week block. When that five-week block has been completed a new set of clubs will be set up (some will be re-run on a different day) and the process will be repeated. This will run for the first four half terms of this academic year:

Co-Curriculum 1: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October

Co-Curriculum 2: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Co-Curriculum 3: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February

Co-Curriculum 4: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March

Our students will have seen what is on offer in a “marketplace” activity that has been completed in tutor time. What I would like you to do now is discuss this with your child and ask them to complete the survey using the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Tr83wS2p7T>

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If a club is oversubscribed, names will be drawn out of a hat. If your child is unlucky enough not to be allocated a club, we will discuss alternatives and attempt to re-run the club at a later date so they can take part. To facilitate sundries and start-up costs the academy asks for a small donation of £1 for the five-week block (not per session). This should be paid via ParentPay.

This is a truly exciting opportunity, and we would ideally love **ALL** students to take part. When this block of five weeks is complete, we will be in touch again with the clubs that will be running in half-term 2. It would be helpful if clubs could be chosen by 9am on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September as we will then be able to start them from next week.

Thank you once again for your support at the start of this academic year.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire  
Executive Principal