



MacIntyre Academies  
Discovery Academy

Putting children and families *first*

Dear Families,

As the academic year comes to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to write to you all with information for the new term and to reflect on the year as a whole.

We started the year full of optimism. We all hoped that the pandemic had finally had its day with education and that we would be able to move on and begin the journey of repairing the damage it caused. Unfortunately, it continued to torment us with staff and student absence, resulting class closures, and yet more uncertainty along the way. However, once again it led to our school community pulling together to get through it. I am so incredibly proud of each and every one of our learners for enduring situations we never thought we would face. The word resilience is used a lot these days, but we have all seen it in spades from each and every one of our children and young people. Likewise, the staff have done all they can to offer the security, consistence and care that each child deserves in uncertain times.

At the risk of making the same ill-fated assumption, it really does feel like we are starting to return to something that could be described as 'normal'. Yes, the pandemic still throws us curve balls but we are much better equipped and resilient to them. We are planning a much greater level of face to face parental engagement from September and we hope our doors remain open to our families far more frequently. We will move beyond just parents' evenings and re-establish the wider community that Discovery Academy needs to be. One way to achieve this will be the implementation of termly parent coffee afternoons whereby you will be able to book an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress. More information will follow in the new academic year.

We have worked extremely hard to make a variety on internal and external recruitment decisions that will see an even greater level of bespoke support for all of our children and young people. We have also implemented new roles within our pastoral and academic structures to ensure all learners are able to make meaning progress that makes sense for them as individuals.

One big step we have taken for ensuring we offer tailored and specialist support is to rethink the support structures in the school. We have managed to maintain strong classroom support whilst implementing new roles across the specialist curriculum areas. We now have Teaching Assistants attached to key subjects as well as classroom-based support. This will allow us to enhance our offer of skills-based learning with high levels of consistency. We have also added capacity to our compassionate school and positive support teams. We have implemented these roles to take a proactive approach to repairing any trauma and disruption caused by the pandemic as well as other forms or individualised support that our learners need.

We are extremely excited for the year ahead and we hope you are too!



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## Safeguarding during the Summer break – Information and Signposting for support

### Warwickshire Safeguarding

There may be times as a parent or carer when you need help, advice or information when caring for your child. This website below provides links to other local or national websites where you can access further information on a number of subjects. It also gives advice for when children's social care or other agencies are involved with your family.

[www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk](http://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk) – please see 'Safeguarding Children – I am a Parent/Carer'

### The Children and Families Front Door

The Children and Families Front Door brings together Children's Social Care and Early Help in to one place to facilitate early, better quality information sharing, analysis and decision-making to safeguard children, young people and families more effectively.

When there are concerns for the safety and wellbeing of children in the Warwickshire, the first point of contact for the Front Door is the Triage Hub.

The Children and Families Front Door also incorporates the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which is a partnership between:

- Warwickshire County Council
- Warwickshire Police
- The National Health Service (NHS)
- Other key partner agencies

### Report a concern

If you have concerns that a child is suffering ANY form of neglect, abuse or cruelty, contact us immediately on: 01926 414144

Lines are open from:  
Monday to Thursday: 8.30am – 5.30pm  
Friday: 8.30am – 5pm

### Out of hours

If you have an emergency outside of usual office hours, please contact the emergency duty team immediately on: 01926 886922

### Emergency contact

If you think that a child is at immediate risk, contact the police immediately on: 999



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## Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme

The government's Household Support Fund has provided local authorities with one-off funding for families, and vulnerable residents, who may need financial help with significantly rising living costs.

If you have one or more children who are eligible for benefits related free school meals, Warwickshire County Council will be making an automatic supermarket voucher payment of £45 towards food costs for your child/children over the summer school holiday.

This support is in addition to the Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme. You can find further detail about the programme and activities available this summer at <https://searchout.warwickshire.gov.uk/holidays-activities-food-haf> under the 'information for families' section. For any queries, please contact [hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk) or ring the FIS Helpline 01926 742274.

The supermarket voucher payment will be processed automatically, and you **do not** need to contact us to apply for the funding. You will be sent an SMS text message from our voucher scheme **Huggg**, with a message from Warwickshire County Council that will have a link to a supermarket voucher attached.

## Contacting the School

Class phones provide vital lines of communication with our families. In preparation for 2022/23, all phones will be redistributed to new class teams and will be restored to their factory settings. This means updated information will be distributed in September and therefore, class phones will not be contactable over the Summer break. Should you need to contact the school, please use the school email.

Email: [discovery.office@macintyreacademies.org](mailto:discovery.office@macintyreacademies.org)

Emergency Phone Number: 07377863354



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Key Dates for 2022-2023

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Autumn Term 2022

- Teacher Training Day - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- Autumn Term starts - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- October Half-term – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Teacher Training Day - Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022
- Teacher Training Day - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Term ends - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Spring Term 2023

- Spring Term starts - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- February Half-term – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- Teacher Training Day - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023
- Term ends - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Summer Term 2023

- Summer Term starts - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023
- May Half-term – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023
- Teacher Training Day - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023
- Term ends - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023

2022/23 Academic Calendar Discovery Academy

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022							December 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
						19 pupil days	30	31					15 pupil days							21 pupil days							12 pupil days
January 2023							February 2023							March 2023							April 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
						21 pupil days							15 pupil days							22 pupil days	30						10 pupil days
May 2023							June 2023							July 2023							August 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3							1							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31			
						20 pupil days							19 pupil days	30	31				15 Pupil days								

Dates of note 2022/23

5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	Training day	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	Pupils return	21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Last day of half term – all	Holidays
31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022	Training day	1 <sup>st</sup> November 2022	Pupils return	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Last day of term – all	Training Day
25 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Training day	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	Pupils return	17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Last day of half term – all	Bank Holidays
10 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	MAT Training Day	27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Pupil return	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Last day of term – all	189 pupil days
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Training Day	17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Pupils return	26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Last day of half term – all	1 x MAT day staff
24 <sup>th</sup> July 2023	Training Day	5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	Pupils return	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023	Last day of term – pupils only	5 x INSET days



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## School Uniform

Whilst we understand that there are barriers to wearing uniform for many of our learners we strongly encourage all children and young people to wear the Discovery Academy uniform. We are proud of our school and we want our learners to be too. Our uniform is part of our identity and we want all of our learners to feel the same level of belonging in our school community. Our school uniform also has other benefits for learners, especially when taking part in offsite activities which, forms a vital part of our core-curriculum. Being recognisable as a Discovery learner quickly is extremely important as a risk management measure. It is also designed to be appropriate for all areas of our curriculum such as physical activities, classroom-based learning and in practical subjects such as food and design technology.

### Discovery's school uniform is:

- Purple polo shirt
- Purple sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black trousers
- Purple coat (optional)
- Black Hoody

Year 10, 11 and Post 16 can also order grey polo shirts available through all of our suppliers.

The Schoolwear Centre in Nuneaton are the local stockist for Discovery uniform and they also have an online service that deliver direct to your home address.

Full information can be found on our website

We hope you have an amazing Summer and look forward to welcoming all students back on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Kindest Regards,

Tony Leigh

Head of School



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