



**SUTTON
COMMUNITY
ACADEMY**



SCA-office@attrust.org.uk



01623 980055



High Pavement, Sutton-in-Ashfield
Nottinghamshire, NG17 1EE

Principal: Mr L Taylor

24th July 2026

End of Year Newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

I would like to begin by thanking you for your continued support over this last academic year. It has been a year in which the academy has continued to go from strength to strength, and this success would not have been possible without the commitment, partnership and support of our entire community.

By working together, we have continued to ensure that we provide the very best opportunities, experiences and support for the young people in our care. I am incredibly proud of all that our students have achieved this year and would like to express my sincere thanks to parents and carers for the important role you play in helping us to create such a positive and successful academy community.

Attendance update

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child attends the academy regularly. Excellent attendance is essential in helping students achieve their full potential, and we are delighted that our attendance has improved from below 89% three years ago, to now being above national average at 92.8%, reflecting the impact of our collective efforts, as shown in the chart below.

At the heart of the Sutton Way are the values of resilience and determination, which are developed through consistent attendance, commitment and perseverance. Every lesson matters, and regular attendance helps students build knowledge, grow in confidence and achieve the outcomes of which they are capable. Thank you for working in partnership with us to ensure your child is in the academy every day, ready to learn and succeed.

Year Group	Attendance
Year 7	94.0%
Year 8	92.4%
Year 9	92.0%
Year 10	92.8%

Our target for next year is 95% for all year groups.

Exam Results Day arrangements

We look forward to celebrating with our amazing students on Results Day and recognising all of their hard work and achievements.

Students are invited to collect their results from the Canteen at the below date/time:

- A Level Results (Year 13) – Thursday 13th August from 9:00-10:00am
- GCSE Results (Year 10 & 11) – Thursday 20th August from 9:00-11:00am

Students who are collecting their results in person simply need to show up on the day. Any students who are unavailable to collect their results have options available as outlined on the letter previously sent home.

Our careers service will be present to support students with their applications to colleges, sixth forms, universities and apprenticeships, as well as those who have not yet secured anything for September or who have changed their plans.

Awards Evening

At the beginning of July, we were delighted to hold our annual Awards Evenings, the first to take place in our wonderful new Cornerstone Theatre. The venue provided a fitting setting to celebrate the achievements, dedication and success of our students.

Our Year 11 Awards Evening recognised the outstanding accomplishments of students throughout their time at the school. We were honoured to welcome Professor Veronica Pickering MBS HAC, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, whose presence made the occasion even more special. It was a pleasure to hear heartfelt speeches and welcome students and their families back to reflect on their journey with us.

Our Whole School Awards Evening celebrated the achievements of students across the school, recognising those who embody the Sutton Way through their values, leadership, resilience, kindness and contribution to school life. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the many talents and positive impact of our students. Thank you to the staff who worked tirelessly to organise these events and to our students for providing excellent catering. Their hard work and professionalism ensured both events were a fitting celebration of another outstanding year.

Student Leadership Team

Following a rigorous selection and interview process, our Student Leadership Team was established for the first time this year. Since their appointment, they have been outstanding ambassadors for the Academy; demonstrating commitment, professionalism and pride in our school community.

Throughout the year, the team have taken a leading role in a range of initiatives linked to teaching and learning, digital strategy and community outreach. They have represented the Academy at meetings and events, welcomed visitors to the school, and worked hard to ensure that the student voice continues to shape our future direction.

One of their most notable community projects was organising a litter pick in Sutton High Street, demonstrating their commitment to making a positive difference both within and beyond the school gates. Their enthusiasm, leadership and willingness to serve others has helped establish the Student Leadership Team as an important part of Academy life.

As two members of the team have moved on to their post-16 education, we thank them for their service and contribution over the past year. We look forward to selecting a new Head Girl and Head Boy in September, as

well as recruiting students into the remaining vacant positions. With such a strong foundation now in place, we are excited to see what the Student Leadership Team will achieve next year!

Phone Pouches

Further to the communications earlier this week, I would like to remind parents and carers that, from September, we will be introducing phone pouches for all students. Mobile phones will be securely stored in the pouches throughout the academy day and will not be accessible until the end of the school day.

We know this change, in line with government guidance, will have a positive impact on students' learning, wellbeing, and their social and emotional development, helping to create an even more focused and connected academy environment. We would be grateful for your support in ensuring your child arrives in September ready to comply with this expectation.

Culture update

This academic year has seen significant progress in the climate and culture around the academy. External visitors regularly comment positively on the conduct of students at the academy and the positivity they feel when seeing students in lessons.

Our Head of Year / Assistant Head of Year team was enhanced this year with the appointment of Mr. Greg Stewart as Assistant Head of Year 8 and we have been delighted to welcome him to the academy.

We continue to make significant progress towards our aim of disruption free learning:

- Negative points have reduced by 31%
- Positive points are up by 4%
- Lesson removals have reduced by 33%
- Fixed Term Suspensions have reduced by 32%

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, parents / carers and students for their support and approach to behaviour around the academy this year, and the improvements we have seen. Through continuing to work together to improve the culture around the academy, we can ensure your child is able to learn and reach their potential in a productive and safe environment.

Inclusion Update

As part of our continuing SEND improvement journey, we are delighted to announce we've added further capacity to the team with the appointment of Miss Brooks as the Academy's SENDCo. Miss Walters will continue as Assistant Principal for Inclusion, alongside Mrs Moore, Assistant SENDCo, ensuring continuity of care and support for our students and families. SEND enquiries should now be directed to Miss Brooks and Mrs Moore in the first instance.

This increased capacity reflects the strength of our growing SEND provision, which is increasingly being recognised nationally. We are also pleased to welcome Miss Blanks as Teacher of Inclusion, working across both our 'Nurture' and LSC provisions.

In addition, SEND has moved into a fantastic new Inclusion Centre, providing a dedicated, well-resourced space for interventions and support, helping us to further enhance provision for all students.

Curriculum in September

The following provides an overview of the learning that students will experience in the Autumn term, highlighting the topics they will be following in each subject. Some topics may vary slightly from those shown below.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Art and design	- Drawing skills - Applying tone - Colour theory - Application of media	'Op Art' illusions - One-point and two-point perspective	- Application of paint, pencil, biro and print making - Control of watercolour and multi-media.
Computing	- Spreadsheets - Online Safety	Introduction to Python programming	- Python programming - Develop, analyse and evaluate a website
Deep Learning			- See Computing, Drama and Music Social Sciences: Introduction to health and social care and childcare: Dance: Components of dance Sports Leaders: communication methods of leadership
Design Technology	Food: Routines, guidelines and kitchen rules; basic food preparation skills Engineering: CAD/CAM; workshop Health and Safety. Using hand tools skilfully. Metal work Construction: Health, Safety and Welfare; understanding types of timber	Food: 4Cs of food hygiene. Developing kitchen routines through practicals Engineering: Understand components of an electronic circuits Construction: Measuring, marking and cutting timber	Food: Food and the environment. Special Dietary needs. Cooking Engineering: use of hand tools. Metal work. Construction: Measuring, marking and cutting softwood; Develop joining techniques
Drama	Basic drama conventions and performance skills	- Conventions of musical theatre - Practical workshops - Dangers of anti-social behaviour and how	- Practical exploration of the components of dance. - Studio practice - Practical workshops

		decisions have consequences.	
English	• Myths, legends and folklore;	• Understand authorial intent and explore a gothic literature • Poetry (Romantics and Rebellion).	• Reading Jekyll and Hyde and The Journey • How the gothic genre is presented within a novel • Characterisation and key themes.
French	• Developing vocabulary	• Developing vocabulary • Use present tense verbs	• Developing vocabulary • Imperfect, conditional, and comparative structures
Geography	• Map skills • Ecosystems	• Development • Globalisation • Energy sources	• Middle East • Climate change
History	• England	• Gunpowder Plot • Civil War • Monarchy	• First World War
Maths	• Simplifying algebra • Rounding • Negative numbers • Multiplication and Division	• Fractions, decimals, percentages • Simplifying algebra • Place value	• Standard form • Angles in polygons • Compound measures • Simplifying expressions
Music	• Melody • Rhythm • Christmas Concert	• Musical Theatre • Composition	• Learn and teach a new musical skill independently • Bass styles.
PE	• Dance • Swimming • Indoor Athletics • Touch Rugby	• Dance • Indoor Athletics • Touch Rugby • Gymnastics:	• Handball • Touch Rugby • Basketball • Football
PSHCE	• Understanding Hygiene • Mental Health Wellbeing • Safer Internet • Puberty • FGM / Drugs	• Mental wellbeing • Self-harm • Social media / Knife crime • Gender stereotypes • Toxic masculinity	• GCSE options process works • Managing anxiety • Good mental health • The economy
Science	• Lab safety • Cells • Energy	• Nutrients • Electric circuits • Chemical reactions	• Longitudinal and transverse waves • Key features of waves

Tutor time	• Sutton Reads - Boy 87 • Issues of immigration, friendship, education and war. • Religious festivals • World religions • Christianity • Sikhism • Careers	• Sutton Reads - The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night • Autism • Relationships • Islam • Judaism • Hinduism • Buddhism • Careers	• Sutton Reads – Regeneration • Social and historical context of WW1 • Careers - understand the GCSE options process • Alternative religions • Religion and ethics • Are religion and science compatible
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	Year 10	Year 11
English	• Reading: A Christmas Carol. Read and understand. Analysing and evaluating. Context. • How writers craft their work. • Extended writing - description based on an image. Use drop-in, shift, zoom x 2, return/link method.	• Literature paper 1 revision • Language paper 2 revision
Maths	• Algebraic manipulation • Equations • Quadratics • Interpret and represent data • Percentages & Ratio • Fractions, Graphs and charts	• Bespoke plans for each teaching group • Regular revision to teaching plans based on QLA and examination papers
PSHCE	• Grief and bereavement • Gangs and county lines • Hate crime • Suicide • Forced and arranged marriages • Revenge porn • Same sex relationships • Stalking and harassment	• Online gambling and gaming • Online dating and how to stay safe • Digital footprints • Communities and riots • Relationships and personal safety • Road safety - young drivers • Media matters (online relationships) • Sexual health & Pregnancy choices
Science	• Organisation • Particle model of matter • Bonding • Atomic structure	• Waves • Organic chemistry • Homeostasis • Chemical analysis • Chemistry of the atmosphere
Tutor Curriculum (non-examined)	• Sutton Reads: 1984. Social and historical context • Careers and work experience • RSE	• Sutton Reads: Short stories • Subject-specific curriculum (maths, English or science) • Small-group tuition

	• Business and finance • Living in Britain • Relating to others	• Morning meetings – revising for core exams • Revision techniques and exam readiness • Careers – post-16 options and support, entry requirements
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Careers

As another successful year comes to a close, we are proud of the continued growth of our Careers Programme, with even more opportunities being provided for students across all year groups.

Year 11 students received extensive support as they explored their post-16 pathways through personalised guidance, application support, provider visits and our annual Providers Week. Students also learned about apprenticeships and alternative employment routes. We are delighted that many have shared their intended destinations and joined our alumni network, helping to inspire future students.

Year 10 students benefited from a range of workplace-focused experiences, including a successful Work Experience Week, CV writing workshops and a Mock Interview Event with local employers, helping them develop key employability skills and gain valuable feedback.

Key Stage 3 students engaged in a variety of careers activities and employer encounters, including sessions from ITS, Nottinghamshire Police, National Rail and West Nottinghamshire College. Additional opportunities explored careers in trade industries and the performing arts, broadening students' understanding of future pathways.

We have also strengthened partnerships with InnovateHer, EMCCA and Succeed in Ashfield - enabling us to offer even more inspiring workshops and employer engagement opportunities.

Looking ahead, our Year 9 students have already begun securing placements for their Work Experience Week in November 2026, with almost 50% of the cohort already placed. We will continue supporting the remaining students in September.

Next year, we are excited to further enhance our careers provision by welcoming a new Careers Adviser to work alongside Ms Finn and by opening a dedicated Careers Office, giving students an accessible space to seek guidance and explore opportunities. We look forward to building on this year's success and helping every student aspire, achieve and succeed.

Year 10 to 11 Plans

Year 10 students are now following a comprehensive year 10 into 11 programme designed to maximise student achievement. This includes:

- Students are now in their new subject-specific tutor groups focused on Maths, English or Science.
- Small groups of students are being offered daily tuition and intervention. These groups will change throughout the year, based on student needs and the sessions being offered.
- Morning meetings are taking place on Thursday and Friday, focused on revisiting key knowledge. These will continue on Fridays throughout year 11.

- Extended learning opportunities, including Period 6 sessions, holiday revision boosters and exam preparation masterclasses will take place throughout year 11. Period 6 will start across the school after the October half-term holidays and will run Tuesday-Thursday each week. Some subjects will start optional period 6 sessions from September 8th. These will be confirmed when students return from the summer break.
- Careers sessions will run on Tuesdays each week and will focus on providing advice and support with college, sixth-form and apprenticeship applications; visits and presentations from local post-16 providers; and ongoing use of Unifrog and other careers resources to help inform decisions.
- All students will also be invited to an individual, impartial careers guidance interview.

Important calendar dates for year 11 are included in the 'key dates' section below.

Return to school arrangements

We will be operating with a staggered start to the new academic year in September. The arrangements are as follows:

- Tuesday 1st September – INSET DAY
- Wednesday 2nd September - Year 7 return
- Thursday 3rd September - Year 10 and 11 return
- Friday 4th September - Year 8 and 9 return
- Monday 7th September – Students accessing the LSC and/or ATTFE Evolve.

We look forward to welcoming students back into the academy on their respective day at 8.27am in full school uniform.

Key dates for the diary

Autumn Term 2026

- 14th Sep 2026: Year 11 Targeted Parents' Evening
- 2nd-13th Nov: Year 11 Mock Exams 1
- 16th-20th Nov: Year 10 Work Experience
- 30th Nov – 11th Dec: KS3 (Years 7-9) Assessment weeks 1
- 14th Dec: Year 11 Parents' Evening and 'Revise Right' event

Spring Term 2027

- 18th Jan: Year 8 Parents' Evening
- Throughout Jan – Year 11 vocational exams
- 1st-11th Feb: Year 11 Mock Exams 2
- 1st-12th Mar: KS3 Assessment weeks 2
- 8th Mar: Year 7 Parents' Evening
- 22nd Mar: Year 11 'Revise Right: Final Push' event

Summer Term 2027

- 19th Apr: Year 9 Parents' Evening
- 10th May: GCSE Exams start
- 8th-24th Jun: Year 10 Mock Exams

Final thoughts

As we reach the end of another successful academic year, I would like to wish all of our students, parents and carers a wonderful and well-deserved summer break. Thank you once again for your continued support, encouragement and partnership throughout the year; it truly makes a difference to the lives and experiences of our young people.

I hope you enjoy time together, make special memories and return feeling refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

I look forward to welcoming all our students back in September ready for another fantastic year of learning, growth and achievement.

Kind Regards

Mr Taylor
Principal