

# **Class of 2031**

## **Parent Information Booklet**

### **Avonbourne Girls' Academy**



Principal: Mrs M Dyer  
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# Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Dear Parent/Carer

A warm welcome to Avonbourne Girls' Academy.

I am incredibly proud to be the Principal of both Avonbourne Boys' and Avonbourne Girls' Academy and the community your daughter will join for her secondary school education.

The academies are part of United Learning, a large and growing group of schools aiming to offer a life changing education to children and young people across England. The academies benefit from working closely with The Cornerstone Academy, Glenmoor and Winton Academies and Avonwood Primary, as part of the United Learning Bournemouth and Poole cluster. We work as a team and, by sharing, achieve more than any single school could.

We are values-driven and our vision is to provide excellent education so that all young people are able to make a success of their lives. Our REACH values of Respect, Equality, Ambition, Community and Hard work & Determination underpin all aspects of academy life for staff and students. Our most important purpose is to teach young people things they would not learn outside school which empower them. Our mission is to bring out 'the best in everyone'. We are unapologetically ambitious for every child, no matter what their background, prior attainment or needs. We also believe in 'Education with Character' – we want young people to look back on a schooling that has inspired and challenged them, given them wide opportunity and prepared them for the ups and downs of life. We encourage students to develop their skills through the provision of educational opportunities which enable young minds to play a part in creating a future which has opportunities for all and encourages aspiration and determination. Pastoral care is superb, with a highly trained team that are morally driven and extremely effective.

We are delighted to share with you our recent OFSTED inspection outcomes. In our first inspection under United Learning in June 2023, Avonbourne Girls' were deemed to continue to be Good and improving in their ungraded inspection and Avonbourne Boys' were graded Outstanding in all areas in their first graded inspection in November 2023.

As an Academy, we value strong relationships between school, home and the wider community and we look forward to establishing these with you. As Principal, and a mother myself, I fully understand that for your child there is only one chance at education and, because of this, I can assure you of my utmost commitment in ensuring that the experience your daughter encounters at Avonbourne is a hugely positive one.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Dyer  
Principal of Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies





# Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies

The best in everyone™  
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Dear Parent/Carer,

A big welcome to you and your daughter to Avonbourne Girls' Academy and the Class of 2031. We cannot wait for you to join our Academy.

As the Assistant Principals with responsibility for Transition, we will be supporting your daughter over the next few months alongside our Senior Leadership and Pastoral teams to ensure her transition is smooth and so that she can hit the ground running when she joins us. At Avonbourne Girls' Academy we are committed to providing an excellent education through which all students are able to progress, achieve and go on to succeed in life. Our aim is for your daughter to leave us in 2031 with a competitive set of A Levels, fond memories and character skills developed in our extra-curricular clubs and friendships she will take into adulthood.

In Year 7 we study a broad range of subjects providing your daughter with a rich curriculum in which she is appropriately challenged. We will oversee your daughter's progress alongside supporting her personally and pastorally. In the Year 7 team we know that moving up to secondary school can be a very anxious time and we hope that by working together with you we can support your daughter to overcome any fears and settle into her journey at Avonbourne.

We look forward to working with you and your daughter.

If you do have any questions, please do get in touch via our email [classof2031@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:classof2031@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

Best Wishes,

Nikki Dadson  
Assistant Principal

Coralie Crisell  
Assistant Principal



# The Avonbourne Way

These seven key values underpin all we do at the Academy, and we expect all students to uphold these values throughout their time at Avonbourne.

1. I always try my hardest to learn to the best of my ability.
2. I take responsibility for my own behaviour. I always do as I am asked, the first time I am asked.
3. I am in the right place at the right time, doing the right thing.
4. I take pride in the timely completion of high quality, well presented class and homework.
5. I take responsibility for my learning and the learning of others – this means I work well independently and within the team.
6. I respect others, their opinions and their personal space
7. I always have the correct equipment, look smart and am ready to learn everyday of every week.



## **Parent Information Evening – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024** **Transition Day – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

In the lead up to the Transition Day, we will have the Avonbourne Girls' Parent Information presentation on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 6:00 pm**. Informal refreshments and a Stevenson's uniform sizing and drop in will be available from 5:00-6:00 pm. Please arrive at **Student Reception**.

The presentation will begin at 6:00 pm and you may just wish to arrive for this 15 minutes before.

This evening will introduce you to members of our Senior Leadership and the Year 7 team and ensure you and your daughter are ready to start with us in September.

Following this evening, we look forward to welcoming your daughter to Avonbourne Girls' Academy for Transition Day on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024** when she will have the opportunity to spend the day with us and meet other students who will be joining the Academy. Students should arrive from 9:00-9:15 am at our **VISITORS RECEPTION**. The day will finish at 3:00 pm.

The first part of the morning will be spent taking part in activities aimed at getting to know one another and becoming familiar with the Academy environment. During the day, your daughter will also have the opportunity to experience sample lessons in a variety of subjects. We would be grateful if you could ensure that she has a **notebook, pencil, and pen with her on the day**.

On the day, all students will be expected to wear their primary/junior school uniform.

The Academy operates a biometric cashless catering system; further information is available in a later section of this booklet. However, on transition day **all students will be provided with a free hot meal and a drink**. There will be a meat and vegetarian hot option available. If students prefer, they can bring with them a packed lunch. All students will need to bring a snack for break time and a drink.

A further letter regarding transition day will be sent home in May/June.



## Curriculum

Our aim is to provide an excellent education for all our students; an education which brings out the best in all of them and prepares them for success in life.

Our curriculum is designed to provide children with the core knowledge they need for success in education and later life, to maximise their cognitive development, to develop the whole person and the talents of the individual and to allow all children to become active and economically self-sufficient citizens.

By teaching our curriculum well, we develop pupils' cultural capital: "the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement." (DFE National Curriculum, 2014)

In your child's first year at the Academy, they will study a variety of subjects from the list below:

Art	Computer Science	Design & Technology
Dance	Drama	English Language and English Literature
Geography	History	Mathematics
Modern Foreign Languages	Music	Physical Education
PSHE	Religious Studies	Science

## Homework

All homework for Year 7 is set and completed using three online platforms: Sparx Maths, Sparx Reader and Seneca. These platforms allow students to get instant feedback on their homework and for teachers to be able to see how their students are progressing in their independent studies.

In September, students have several sessions in IT rooms where they are shown how to log into school computers as well as their three homework platforms. Students will be given a school email address and password and will be shown by their tutors and subject teachers how each homework platform works.

Homework is introduced at the start of Year 7 with English, Maths and Science homework set once a week in the first Autumn term. Each homework assignment is designed to take no more than 30 minutes. Therefore, from September to October half term, Year 7 students will only complete English, Maths and Science homework totalling 90 minutes of homework a week.

After October half term, Year 7 students will start to get homework once a fortnight in the following subjects: Geography, History, RS and MFL. These homework assignments are each designed to last 30 minutes each. Therefore, by Christmas, Year 7 students will be completing 30 minutes of homework a night, 5 days a week.

Homework is pre-set each half term and students will be given a homework grid via our school website which outlines their weekly homework instructions and the dates the assignments are due. This information is available to parents and students on the school website at the start of every half term.

We offer homework club every day at break and lunch in the computer rooms should your child wish to attend where there are staff on hand to help with subject homework as well as IT issues. We also offer homework clubs after school on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

From September to Christmas, Year 7 students will not be set homework detentions for non-completion as we understand that students can often struggle to adapt to the homework expectations at secondary school. However, if students fail to complete their homework after Christmas, they will be issued with an after-school homework detention in an IT room where the expectation is that they catch up with the homework that they missed. This will be communicated to the students by their teacher and a text message will be sent home informing parents of the date and time of the detention.

*(please note we are in the process of reviewing our homework policy and any changes will be communicated to parents).*

## **Parental Communication**

Avonbourne Girls' Academy use electronic communication.

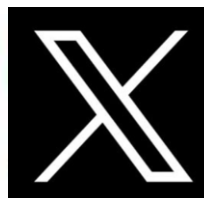
This means that most of the communication you have from us will come via direct email rather than letters being posted or handed to your child. Urgent messages or reminders will also be sent to you via email and staff will make direct contact with you by phone if they need to speak to you about your child.

**Please can you ensure you complete email addresses in the reply form and email our office as soon as possible if any details change**

## **Keeping you informed**

We know that it can be difficult to keep up with everything that is going on at a large secondary school like Avonbourne and we endeavour to make this as easy for you as possible. In addition to all the above, our website is continually updated with reminders about upcoming events and important dates, and you can also access our Academy calendar through it. Our newsletter is emailed to you each half term and is a great way of staying informed about Academy life.

We also use social media to communicate with parents and would highly recommend that parents and carers follow us:



Follow us on Twitter [@AvonbourneUL](#)  
Follow us on Facebook [@ULavonbourneacademy](#)  
Follow us on Instagram [@avonbourneacademy](#)

## Uniform Requirements

Avonbourne Girls' Academy aim to give all students the foundations for a successful life by helping them to develop the skills and attitudes that will provide them with real life-chances. We believe our Academy uniform achieves four important goals:

- High expectations and immaculate 1st impressions.
- It encourages a sense of community identity and pride. By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, students are encouraged to think of the needs of the community as well as their own individual needs and makes all students ambassadors for the Academy in the local community.
- It encourages our students to develop habits for life. By learning to polish their shoes, fold trousers or hang up their blazers, students learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility as a smart appearance is an increasingly important aspect of modern life.
- It prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down and making it cost effective for parents in the long run.

By requiring all our students to wear the same low-cost uniform, we reduce the incentive for students to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. Whilst in the Academy, this allows students to focus on their academic performance rather than on what they are wearing.

At Avonbourne Girls' Academies, we only allow skirts, jumpers, blazers and ties and the Avonbourne Academy PE kit that are purchased through our supplier. This way we ensure that all our students look as smart and professional as each other. Our supplier also offers shirts as well as other items, but it is not compulsory for parents to purchase these items through our supplier. Please note that some items are compulsory, whereas others are optional. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) can only be bought via the following supplier: <https://www.avonbournegirlsacademy.org.uk/students-and-parents/uniform-and-equipment>

Please note that some items are compulsory, whereas others are optional. Items marked with an asterisk (\*) can only be bought via the following supplier:

### **Stevensons**

[Avonbourne Girls' Academy, Bournemouth - Stevensons](#)

**Email:** bournemouthbranch@stevensons.co.uk **Telephone:** 01202 425192

Stevensons will be attending the Avonbourne Girls' Welcome presentation on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June from 5:00-6:00 pm to meet with parents and discuss uniform and sizing.

*Please note from September 2024 the badges for Avonbourne Academy on the Blazer and PE top will reflect 'Avonbourne Academies' as opposed to 'Avonbourne Boys' Academy' or 'Avonbourne Girls' Academy'.*





## Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academy Uniform

	Uniform	Not Acceptable
<b>Blazer *</b>	Avonbourne Academies Blazer purchased from Stevensons	-No blazer -Pushed up sleeves -Any garment other than school jumper and shirt underneath
<b>Jumper *</b>	Avonbourne Academies Grey V Neck Jumper with navy stripe purchased from Stevensons	-Sweatshirt -Non regulation jumper -Fleece -Tracksuit -Hooded top -Waistcoat -Cardigan
<b>Trousers</b>	Mid Grey, classic tailored style  Any belts should be black	-No charcoal -Fashion trousers (corduroy/bootlegs/ skinny trousers/lycra) -Studs, visible buttons or trimmings -Shorts -Stretchy Material -Leggings
<b>Skirt *</b>	Avonbourne Academy Grey and Navy skirt purchased from Stevensons. The skirt should sit on the knee.	-Rolled/tucked up skirts -Skirts that do not sit on the knee
<b>Shirt</b>	Plain white school shirt  Tucked in and buttoned at the neck	-Casual/fashion shirt -Shirt worn without a tie or with tie tucked in -Shirts worn outside trousers/skirts -Exposed midriff
<b>Tie *</b>	Avonbourne Academies grey and navy striped tie purchased from Stevensons	-Ties worn incorrectly
<b>Footwear</b>	Traditional black leather flat or low-heeled school shoes  Laces, soles and stitching must be black  Black shoes should be worn on the way to and from the Academy  Students will not be allowed to attend lessons if the correct shoes are not worn in the Academy  Please see images below to clarify acceptable and unacceptable shoes.	-Trainers (even if black) -Sandals/slingbacks/backless shoes -Boots -Coloured/Fluorescent laces. -Canvas/fabric shoes or pumps -Trimmings i.e. buckles, labels, tags or decorations –High-heels/stilettos/ platforms/ wedges  <b>The Academy will reserve the right to decide what represents a trainer, even when the retailer has marketed the shoe as suitable for school.</b>

<b>Socks and Tights</b>	Plain black socks or plain black tights	-Coloured, white or patterned socks or tights -No trainer socks
<b>Hair and Makeup</b>	<p>Conventional style and natural colour If hair is long, it is essential it is tied back for reasons of health and safety in some practical lessons</p> <p>Any hair bands/clips must be subtle and grey/navy/black in colour</p> <p>Makeup – Natural/subtle make up will be excepted (light foundation and light mascara) in Years 9, 10 and 11 <b>ONLY</b></p> <p><b>The Academy will reserve the right to decide what represents natural makeup school and will expect students to remove makeup if not acceptable.</b></p>	<p>Please see further guidance on Boys'/Girls' hair below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unnatural colour</li> <li>-Decorative attachments</li> <li>-Tram lines</li> <li>-Hair extensions</li> <li>-Shaved eyebrows</li> <li>-Nail varnish</li> <li>-Nail extensions</li> </ul>
<b>Jewellery</b>	<p>Maximum of two small plain gold or silver stud-like earrings (one in each earlobe)</p> <p>Smart watches are permitted as long as they are used appropriately. If not used appropriately these will be confiscated and returned to parents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No rings</li> <li>-No diamond/pearl/ coloured gem studs</li> <li>-Any facial or body piercing</li> <li>-No accessories are to be worn around the neck or attached to clothing</li> </ul>

## Footwear

If parents/carers are unsure as to whether a particular style will be accepted, they should check a picture of the shoe with the Academy before purchasing.

Shoes:

Black formal leather/leather look shoes. Non-sports footwear cannot be branded with sports logos. Trainers may only be worn for PE and must not be worn to / from the Academy unless for cycling. Football boots must have non-metal studs.

Acceptable examples:



Unacceptable examples:



**Hair**

Students' hair must be in a conventional and understated style.

Boys' hair must be no longer than collar length and kept short on top. In addition, there should be no severe contrast between the top of the hair and the sides. Short sides must be faded gradually into the top of the haircut so there is no noticeable 'step' or layering.

Some specific styles that are **not permitted**:

- Patterns shaved into a student's hair or eyebrows, including an artificial parting or tramlines
- High or flamboyant hair styles, such as a 'Mohican'
- Any unnatural colours
- Styles that hide the face
- Any other hairstyles that the Academy considers to be inappropriate

Girls' hair must also be in a conventional and understated style.

Some specific styles that are not permitted:

- Bows, flowers or other adornments in the hair
- Unnatural colours or extensions
- Styles that hide the face
- Patterns shaved into the student's hair or eyebrows
- Any other hairstyles that the Academy considers to be inappropriate

This list is not exhaustive, and the Academy will have the final decision on what is/is not acceptable.

Some of our girls may choose to wear headscarves for religious reasons. Headscarves must be black, grey or navy blue. Pins or clips must be small, dark in colour and understated. There can be no decorations such as sequins or patterns. Material must not be too long at the front or the back so as to obscure the uniform or look untidy. At the front, headscarves material must not go below the V-neck of a jumper or equivalent.

**Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academy PE and Dance Kit**

	<b>PE Kit</b>	<b>Not Acceptable</b>
<b>Indoor Lessons</b>	Navy fitted polo shirt with Academy logo* Navy skort or shorts (these can be purchased from Stevensons or elsewhere) <b>OR</b> Navy Leggings ONLY if purchased from Stevensons* <i>From September 2024, Stevensons purchased navy leggings will be permitted to be worn on their own for PE/Dance lessons</i>  White Sports Socks	Non regulation polo shirt Navy Leggings purchased from anywhere other than Stevensons

	Suitable sports trainers	
<b>Outdoor Lessons</b>	<p>Navy fitted polo shirt with Academy logo*</p> <p>Navy skort or shorts (these can be purchased from Stevensons or elsewhere)</p> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Navy Leggings ONLY if purchased from Stevensons*</p> <p><i>From September 2024, Stevensons purchased navy leggings will be permitted to be worn on their own for PE/Dance lessons</i></p> <p>Suitable sports trainers and football boots/astro trainers</p> <p>Shin Pads</p>	<p>-Jumpers</p> <p>-Hoodies</p> <p>-Coats</p> <p>-Rain Jackets</p>
<b>Trainers/Footwear</b>	<p>Sports style running trainers which are lace up</p> <p>Dance/Gymnastics ONLY – bare feet or gripped trampolining/yoga socks</p>	<p>-Fashion trainers</p> <p>-Skate shoes</p> <p>-Plimsolls</p> <p>-Fluorescent laces</p> <p>-Fluffy, grippy bed socks</p>

#### **Optional PE/Dance Items**

- Avonbourne long sleeve sports top purchased from Stevensons
- Avonbourne waterproof jacket purchased from Stevensons
- Tracksuit bottoms (students may wear plain navy tracksuit bottoms from other suppliers, but these must have **no branding** or **detail** e.g. stripes)
- Plain navy jumper (without logo or hood)
- Base layers can be worn under PE uniform (blue, black or white)
- Leggings/skins purchased from other suppliers (blue, black or white) can be worn as base layers underneath shorts/skorts but not instead of shorts/skorts.
- Gum Shield
- Plain gloves and woollen hat (when appropriate and without logo)

#### **Jewellery and Hair for PE and Dance Lessons**

**All jewellery and personal effects such as watches, necklaces and body piercings must be removed for PE and Dance related activities.** Students will be reminded at each lesson to do so; it is the students' responsibility to ensure this is done. **Students will NOT be able to take part in lessons until these items are removed and could have further sanctions. Please consider when ears are pierced.**

If, under exceptional circumstances, jewellery cannot be removed (e.g. cultural practice or newly pierced ears), the risk of injury must be reduced where it is practicable to do so.

- Studs being secure by the use of micropore tape or masking tape (not Sellotape or Elastoplast's).
- Medi-alert bracelets and necklaces will be worn by some children, and it is sensible to remove these items during the period of participation. The teaching and support staff will be aware of the special circumstances relating to that child and will know how to react should difficulties arise.

Long hair must be tied back to prevent entanglement in apparatus and to prevent it obscuring vision. It is the student's responsibility to ensure this is done. *Please note this is also the case in Science and Technology lessons. Students with long hair should bring a suitable hair band to school each day.*

Items of clothing worn for religious and spiritual reasons, such as a head scarf or turban should allow unrestricted movement without being loose and should not hinder personal safety and protection for the activity concerned.



### School Bags

It is essential students can carry all their necessary equipment with them. A good sized plain coloured backpack is found to be very convenient by most students for carrying A4 sized books and folders, equipment and outside coats.

**Fashion bags** are not suitable for carrying textbooks and school equipment. Bags should be **dark coloured** with minimal / discrete logos and colour trim.

**Acceptable** - dark coloured, suitable sized backpack



**Not Acceptable** - Handbags and Tote bags, bright colours, small fashion bags, pins and badges



### Coats and Outdoors Wear

Only plain, dark (navy blue, black, dark grey) outside coats are acceptable (no logos or designer labels).

Designer coats, fur coats, leather, denim, patterns or stripes are not acceptable.

Plain black, blue or grey hats, gloves and scarves can be worn outside in the winter months.

Coats, hats, gloves and scarves are not to be worn inside the Academy buildings.

Baseball caps are not acceptable.

### Parent notes/medical notes for uniform:

If a student has a medical reason for the need to wear modified footwear, a medical note supplied by a doctor or medical practitioner must be provided specifying the exact type and brand of footwear (all such notes will be confirmed with the medical professional).

*It is important that all parents/carers should realise the necessity of marking all garments and possessions clearly with their daughter's name.*

### Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Mobile phones and electronic devices are banned from use during the academy day. Students are permitted to keep them in their possession but must be **switched off and in their bags** during the academy day. Any phone seen at any time on the Academies site will be confiscated and parents/carers informed.

- Mobile phone and electronic device use including the use of iPod/music players and headphones is prohibited throughout the Academies.
- Responsibility for the safekeeping of the phone belongs to the student.
- At all times, student mobile phones must be switched off during the Academy Day (8am – 3:25pm)
- Failure to submit a phone when asked will result in the student being excluded for a fixed period until parents/carers are met with by the relevant member of staff.
- Smart watches are permitted as long as they are used appropriately. If not used appropriately these will be confiscated and returned to parents.



## **Equipment**

In order to maintain high standards and to maximise learning, it is essential we have high expectations about the equipment that every student is required to have in their possession each day.

Form tutors will check that students have the right equipment every single day.

Clear plastic 30cm pencil cases are also very important, as these are a requirement for all public examinations. We do not want parents to have the added expense of purchasing another pencil case specifically for these examinations, as students now sit formal exams in every year.

Pencil cases/equipment items will be available for sale to parents and students via our online payment system for pick up in student reception before/after school and at break time during the day.

Please note, students experiencing hardship and those who are Pupil Premium will receive support. Please contact the Head of Year for help if this is the case.

### **Compulsory Items:**

#### **Available to purchase via our Parent Payment Portal and collected at the Academy:**

30 cm long, clear plastic pencil case  
Helix Maths Set (or Compass and Protractor)  
30 cm ruler  
Translucent reading ruler

*Can be purchased as a bundle 'Stationary Set' of 4 items for £4.70*

Translucent reading ruler

*Can be purchased individually for £1.00*

Casio fx-83GT X calculator

*Can be purchased individually for £9.40*

#### **Not available to purchase from the Academy but compulsory:**

3 x blue or black pens  
1 x HB pencils  
4 x coloured highlighters  
1 x white board pen  
1 x green pen

#### **Highly Recommended Items:**

Coloured pencils  
Rubber  
Pencil sharpener



## **Academy Travel**

We encourage all students to either walk or cycle to the Academy.

If travel by car is unavoidable, please be aware that College Drive, the road into the Academy can become very congested at the start and end of the day. For the safety of all our students, please always observe parking and entrance restrictions and be aware of students and staff cycling and walking on site.

If your daughter would need to get a bus to the Academy, please visit the appropriate bus travel website. As this information comes through to us, we will post on our websites.

At time of printing, bus numbers 46 and 81 collect and drop off on College Drive at the front of our receptions. Public bus number 33 collects and drops off on Harewood Avenue at the entrance to our Sixth Form block.

Please see below the current timings of the school day (*please note these are subject to change and any changes will be communicated with parents*)

Students should be in their line ups at 8:30 am when the first whistle is blown.

Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 students enter via the blue gates which are past student reception in Block B.

Year 7 students enter via the basketball courts next to the visitor reception in Block A.

8:30 – 9:00 = Tutor/Assembly

9:00 – 10:15 = Period 1

10:20 – 11:30 = Period 2

11:30 – 11:50 = Break for all

11:50 – 13:05 = Period 3

13:05 – 13:35 = Lunch Y7, Y8 & USF, DEAR/Intervention Y9-Y11

13:35 – 14:05 = Lunch Y9-Y11, DEAR Y7 & Y8

14:05 – 15:20 = Period 4 all except Y11

14:05 – 15:45 = Period 4 Y11

15:20 – 15:25 = Line ups all except Y11 & USF

15:25 = Extra-curricular

## **Parental Online Portal**

We encourage parent access to a Parental Online portal, which will provide information on your child's reach points, timetable, attendance, and emergency contact information. This is also the area where you will find consents for various activities and data usage and may be used for parents' evening booking and other activities.

Access can only be granted if we have received an appropriate email address from the primary parent/carer. Once an email address has been received an email will be sent to you detailing a password and log in instructions.

This service is also available via the "Arbor App" available on IOS and Android, for your smart phones.





## **Canteen and Cashless Catering**

In common with many schools and academies, we use online payments as our method of collecting any funds from students/parents for the following reasons:

- You can pay funds to the school whenever it suits using a debit or credit card – the online payment portal is available '24/7'.
- Each online payment can cover multiple items and multiple family members studying at Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies.
- You will have peace of mind that the transactions are secure (we use one of the biggest banks and the largest credit card processing service in the UK) and there will never be any risk of payments going astray.
- You can pay for trips and events online as soon as letters come home. 'First come, first served' trips will require parents to complete a Microsoft Form before payment is asked for.
- Through the online portal, as well as putting money onto your child's cashless catering account, you will be able to view what they have purchased in the school cafeterias each day.
- Funds normally become available to spend within 30 minutes of payments being made (other than during the lunch period when online payments are unavoidably suspended due to the way the link works with the cashless catering system)
- Refunds can be processed back onto your card.

By using online payments, it is our aim that the need for students to bring cash into school will largely be eliminated, other than for occasional low value items such as cake sales for local charities.

You will receive a separate letter containing a unique access code to enable you to register for online payments, along with all the information you will need to get started.

**Letters with individual codes to sign up to our Parent Pay system will be sent home during the summer holidays (usually in August).**

You can request additional letters/access codes if more than one parent would like to register for each student. You can contact: [bmthpoolefinance@unitedlearning.org.uk](mailto:bmthpoolefinance@unitedlearning.org.uk) with any queries or assistance with online payments.



### **Wave Café**

Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies use a very successful cashless catering system within our school canteen, The Wave Café. The system incorporates latest technology and eliminates the need to carry cash throughout the day, which in turn reduces the risk of loss or potential bullying. It is a biometric system which means there is no need to carry a card as the machine will recognise your child's thumb at the tills. Their thumb will be scanned on their first morning in September.

In order to comply with the law and data protection regulations, we require the written consent of at least one parent in order that the biometric information of your child can be processed. We use biometric fingerprints only for the Cashless Catering system in our canteen. Please be reassured that the biometric fingerprint

information remains within the Academy and although the systems are based on fingerprint recognition, the system does not capture and store the fingerprint. It works by taking measurements of the fingerprint and creating an individual and unique pattern. The original fingerprint cannot be reconstructed from this data. If you are concerned in any way about this process, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy.

**You are asked to confirm on the relevant section of Data Collection form to verify that you have read and give consent for your daughter's fingerprint to be taken.**

### **Free School Meals**

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7400.
- Income support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, a daily amount of £2.50 is credited to their account. They can use 0.50p of this at break time and then whatever they don't use, rolls onto the £2 that is credited at lunch.

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra £900 for the Academies to fund valuable support such as extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities. This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

For further information please visit our website:

[Avonbourne Girls Academy > Students and Parents > Cashless Catering and Free School Meals](#)



## **Safeguarding**

The Academy takes the safety, security and happiness of all students very seriously and believe that every child has a right to a happy, successful and enjoyable education.

The safeguarding policy at Avonbourne Academy can be found on the website (safeguarding) and has been developed in order to ensure ongoing compliance with Government Acts and Safeguarding legislation, the most recent of which being the Keeping Children Safe in Education document (updated, 2023). The Academy also follows BCP Partnership procedures and ensures that ongoing training is provided to staff, students and other stakeholders in line with recommendations and the needs of the Academy.

The Academy recognises that children have a fundamental right to be protected from harm or exploitation and that students cannot learn effectively unless they feel safe and secure. The Academy will, therefore, provide an environment which promotes self-confidence, a feeling of worth and the knowledge that students' concerns will be listened to and acted upon.

Governors, staff and volunteers in this Academy understand the importance of working in partnership with children, their parents/carers and other agencies in order to promote children's welfare.

Further details about our Safeguarding policies and procedures can be found on the Avonbourne Academy website in the Safeguarding section, including how to report a concern and further information about keeping children safe.

Should you have any concerns of a safeguarding nature you can contact Miss Natasha England as Designated Safeguarding Lead or Mr Jacob McKay on 01202 398451 or by e-mailing [safeguarding@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)



## **Absence/Attendance**

A student's attendance is expected to be above 97%.

Research indicates attendance and attainment are closely linked during a child's secondary school education. If your daughter is ill and unable to attend, please phone the Academy before 8:30am on the first day of absence leaving your daughter's name, tutor group and reason for absence.

Alternatively contact the attendance team via email – [attendance@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:attendance@avonbourneacademy.org.uk) and copy in your daughter's year team classof \_\_\_\_\_@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Every day of absence the Academy should be notified. On your daughter's return, please send a brief note to cover the period of absence. Please note that no holiday will be authorised during term time. Please refer to our Attendance policy on our school website under policies for further information.

## **Provision for Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

Avonbourne Academy's mission is to help our students to believe in their own individual talents in order to empower them to reach their full potential. We achieve this through offering a safe and inclusive environment where everyone is valued and respected, and by providing a personalised programme of support.

Avonbourne Academy aims to encourage the development of each individual student, to motivate their self-belief and sociability, to remove barriers to learning and to ensure that every student has the opportunity to fulfil their maximum potential.

The Learning Support department is led by Mrs A Brittain (SENDCo) and supported by Miss S Truesdale (Deputy SENDCo) and Miss K Hermon (Assistant to the SENDCo). It comprises of a team of specialist staff who support students across the two Academies. We are located in A block, close to Visitors' Reception, and our facilities include 2 teaching areas, an ELSA / Nurture room and a sensory room.

### **Interventions include:**

- Nurture- helping students to learn socially, nurture groups help to develop confidence, become responsive to others, learn self-respect, raise self-esteem and take pride in behaving well and achieving
- SALT - Speech and Language Therapy
- Social language and communication support
- ELSA - Emotional Literacy Support Assistants are specialist teaching assistants who have been trained to support children with emotional difficulties
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Homework clubs
- Bespoke small group support
- Dyslexia Support

We work closely with a range of external agencies who provide specialist support and advice for individual students depending on their needs. These agencies include:

- SALT (Speech and Language Therapy)
- Educational Psychologist
- Community Paediatrician
- Occupational Therapist
- CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
- Physiotherapist
- Hearing and Vision Support Services
- Local Authority SEN/ Inclusion Team

### **Assessment and Monitoring:**

All students who enter the Academies complete baseline testing. This information is used alongside other data to identify students who may require additional support. Intervention sessions are provided to target specific development needs and the progress of each student is monitored closely. Students who do not make progress in light of interventions are placed on the SEN register and further interventions may be offered. The SEN register is reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure that students are moved through the SEN stages of the Code of Practice in an accurate and timely manner.

### **Support from Learning Coaches:**

Classroom teachers and Learning Coaches ensure that support is effective and builds upon learning in lessons. Learning Coaches often work with small groups of students to develop particular skills and regularly make use of multi-sensory teaching to pre, and post teach basic skills and concepts, that will lead the student to make progress in the lessons.

### **Inclusive education:**

We pride ourselves on being fully inclusive and all students attend mainstream lessons with their peers, to ensure they gain the highest specialist subject knowledge from their teachers. Staff at the Academy are continually receiving CPD on how to support a variety of additional needs, therefore in line with the DfE Code of practice, Quality First Teaching is at the heart of support for SEND students. For further information, please visit the SEND pages on our Academy websites.

## **Peripatetic Music Lessons**

These lessons take place during the school day and are timetabled every term. We currently offer lessons on the following instruments: voice, piano, keyboard, drum kit, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, guitar (electric/acoustic), bass guitar and ukulele.

The fees for tuition for this academic year are as follows:

- £120 for 10 x individual 20-minute lessons.
- £60 for 10 x shared 20-minute lessons.

Shared lessons take place in groups of 2 or 3 students. If it is not possible to provide a group lesson, then an individual lesson will occur once a fortnight.

All lessons take place in the practice rooms in Block A. Please note that priority for lessons during break and lunch time will be given to year 10 and 11 students. In addition to this, if you are in receipt of pupil premium or state benefits you will be able to apply for a grant to help cover the cost of lessons. This information can be found on the Soundstorm website: <https://soundstorm-music.org.uk/music-education-hub/grants/accessfund/>

To enquire about peripatetic lessons, please contact the relevant teacher below:

<b>Mr Consoli</b>	Drums	<a href="mailto:intuitiondrums@gmail.com">intuitiondrums@gmail.com</a>	
<b>Mrs Ozanne</b>	Piano, keyboard, voice and music theory	<a href="mailto:Debra.ozanne@hotmail.co.uk">Debra.ozanne@hotmail.co.uk</a>	07999 338562 Please ensure all text messages have the student's name
<b>Mr Cooper</b>	Flute, clarinet, saxophone	<a href="mailto:newforestwoodwind@outlook.com">newforestwoodwind@outlook.com</a>	
<b>Mr Mayo</b>	Guitar (acoustic, electric and bass), ukulele	<a href="mailto:pooleguitars@hotmail.com">pooleguitars@hotmail.com</a>	07788 557261
<b>Mr Bilby</b>	Brass (Trumpet and trombone)	<a href="mailto:johnbilby@outlook.com">johnbilby@outlook.com</a>	

Payments will be accepted for the Class of 2031 from July 2024.

## Education with Character

We have a wide-ranging and engaging Education with Character programme at Avonbourne Academies. Underpinning this programme is our REACH Values, and we aim to ensure all students can engage with these throughout different initiatives during their time with us, supporting them to be the best they can be.

### **Our REACH Values are:**

- Respect
- Equality
- Ambition
- Community
- Hard work & determination

We do this by offering a programme which encompasses the following aspects to all our students:

- Opportunities to go on trips abroad.
- Getting involved in performances which celebrate the Performing Arts
- Opportunities to go to a wide range of extra-curricular clubs from trying Coding to joining our Orchestra.
- Opportunities for Student Leadership. This includes our Prefect roles, House Ambassador roles and various membership to various Student Committees. These will all come together regularly as part of our Student Council.
- Fundraising initiatives and opportunities for volunteering & service. Previously we have raised money for: Disaster Relief; Children in Need; and been part of Christmas Hampers campaign. We have also taken part in initiatives in the community such as the Beach Clean Up on Bournemouth Beach, by Project Planet Earth.

We regularly talk about our values and how they link to Education with Character through our assemblies and as part of the tutor programme.



## Extra-Curricular Activities

Further details will be provided to your daughter in September along with a timetable of all other enrichment opportunities.

Please visit our website to view our current offer.

## Reply Form

The Applicaa Data Collection Form needs to be fully completed electronically and returned to the Academy by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at the latest. If you need any assistance with this, please contact Avonbourne reception.

**Please ensure the Applica  
Data Collection Form is completed  
electronically and sent back to us by  
Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

If you have any questions/queries, please contact the Academy on 01202 398451 or via [office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:office@avonbourneacademy.org.uk) or [classof2031@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:classof2031@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

We cannot wait to meet you very soon!

