

**Headteacher – Mr A Percival**  
**Chair of Governors – Mr A Crompton**

**Airedale Academy**  
Crewe Rd, Castleford  
WF10 3JU  
Tel: (01977) 664555

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **RE: Start of Half Term 2**

I hope this message finds you well. It has been fantastic to see pupils return this week with such enthusiasm and commitment to our high standards. I have been genuinely impressed by the exceptional behaviour and the pride shown in wearing the correct uniform by the vast majority of Team Airedale. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring these standards are maintained – together we show that we care about creating a positive and respectful learning environment.

As you may be aware, we have now moved to Arbor as our Managed Information System. The uptake from families has been superb, and we appreciate your engagement with this platform. Alongside this transition, we have relaunched expectations with pupils today and implemented systems that are consistent across the Trust. These changes will help pupils aspire to meet high standards and succeed in their learning.

### **Key Updates and Improvements**

- **Attendance Rewards:**

Last half term, pupils enjoyed *The Masked Teacher*. This half term, we are introducing our own version of *"I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here"*. To qualify to witness this event, pupils must achieve 100% attendance this half term or 95% attendance year-to-date since September. Excellent attendance is a key part of helping pupils succeed.

- **Pupil Reception:**

Pupil Reception will now only be accessible for pupils to purchase equipment before school, at break, and at lunchtime. It will remain staffed for medical needs and signing in/out, but access will be controlled throughout the day. This change ensures pupils remain focused on learning, showing that we care about maximising their opportunities to aspire and achieve.

- **Compulsory Equipment:**

Pupils must bring the following every day:

- Black pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Planner

If a pupil receives two or more equipment logs in a week, they will receive a 20-minute detention. Please support us by ensuring your child has the correct equipment daily. The planner is a vital communication tool. Pupils may borrow a planner once per half term;

**Headteacher – Mr A Percival**  
**Chair of Governors – Mr A Crompton**

**Airedale Academy**  
Crewe Rd, Castleford  
WF10 3JU  
Tel: (01977) 664555

on the second occasion, they will be placed in Step-Up until a parent/carer brings their planner to school. Being prepared every day helps pupils aspire to excellence and succeed in their lessons.

- **PE Kit:**  
Pupils who forget their kit will receive a warning on the first occasion and a 20-minute detention on the second. These expectations encourage responsibility and readiness – essential for pupils to succeed.
- **Uniform Expectations:**  
While we have made significant progress, a small minority of pupils still do not meet expectations. Please note:
  - Skirt length should be a hand's width from the knee.
  - Skinny trousers and false eyelashes are not permitted.
  - Bracelets, hooped earrings, and rings will be confiscated. The first time pupils may collect them at the end of the day; subsequent infringements will require parent/carer collection.
  - Socks should be plain black or white (not trainer socks), and trousers should not be cropped so that ankles are visible.

Maintaining high standards of uniform reflects our shared commitment to care for our school community and helps pupils aspire to present themselves professionally.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining these high standards. If you have any queries, your child's form tutor should be your first point of contact. Please telephone or email the school to reach them.

Together, through our values of Care, Aspire, and Succeed, we can ensure that every pupil thrives in a safe, structured, and supportive environment.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Percival'.

Andy Percival  
Headteacher