

Parent/Carer Weekly Bulletin

Week Ahead

Monday 31 August	BANK HOLIDAY – School Closed
Tuesday 01 September	INSET DAY – School Closed to Students
Wednesday 02 September	INSET DAY – School Closed to Students
Thursday 03 September	School Reopens – Year 7 and 12 only
Friday 04 September	School Open for All Year Groups

Our theme this week has been **Grow Ambition**. At Forge, we encourage all of our students to believe in themselves, set high aspirations, and work hard to achieve their goals. Ambition is not just about future careers; it is also about having the confidence to try new things, embrace challenges, and strive to be the best version of yourself every day.

As we look ahead to the next academic year, we encourage all students to think about what they would like to achieve. This might be improving their attendance, joining a new club, developing new skills, taking on additional responsibilities, or working towards a personal goal. Whatever the ambition, every great achievement begins with a small step, determination, and a positive mindset.

1. Attendance

Please see below our attendance figures for the week commencing 06th July

Year 07	Year 08	Year 09	Year 10
84.4%	81.5%	83.5%	85.2%

2. End of Year Message

As we approach the end of another successful school year, we would like to take a moment to celebrate the hard work, dedication, and achievements of all our students. Throughout the year, our pupils have shown resilience, determination, and a positive attitude towards their learning. Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, through the arts, or by supporting their school community, they have much to be proud of.

We would like to thank every student for their efforts and commitment. Their successes, both big and small, have contributed to making this a year full of memorable achievements and progress. We also extend our gratitude to our families and staff for their ongoing support throughout the year.

We are aware that you may need to contact us during the summer holiday period. **The school office will remain open from 8:00am to 3:00pm; however, our telephone lines will not be available.** If you need to get in touch, please email your enquiry to info@oatforge.co.uk.

Please be aware that staffing levels may be reduced during this period, therefore it may take longer than our usual 2 full working day turn around for you to receive a response. Staff will aim to respond to your query as soon as possible.

We wish everyone a safe, happy, and restful summer holiday and look forward to welcoming our students back in the new academic year.

3. Result Days

We are looking forward to welcoming our Year 11 and Sixth Form students back over the summer as they receive their GCSE and A-Level results. Results Day Dates:

- **A-Level Results Day:** Thursday 13 August
- **GCSE Results Day:** Thursday 20 August

If your child is unable to attend on results day, their results will be available to view through their **Arbor account**, which will remain active until mid-September 2026. Alternatively, if students would prefer their results to be sent to their school email account, please request this in advance by emailing info@oatforge.co.uk.

We wish all our students the very best of luck and look forward to celebrating their achievements.

4. Year Team Information

We are pleased to share with you the year team information for September 2026.

Year Group	Head of Year	Assistant Head of Year	Pastoral Staff
Year 07	Mr Gill	Mrs Marsh	Mr Moore
Year 08	Mr Gill	Mrs Pendrill	Miss Goodridge
Year 09	Mrs Arnold	Mr Siviter	Mr Wood
Year 10	Miss Wiseman		Mr Robinson
Year 11	Mr Adams		Mrs Pearson

5. Uniform Expectations for September 2026

As we prepare for the new academic year, we kindly remind you that from September we will be returning to normal school uniform expectations. To see our uniform expectation please click [here](#). Students are however able to wear the optional summer polo shirt in replacement of their blazer shirt and tie until the October half term. These are available to purchase through Crested School either [online](#) or via their store which can be located at Churchill Shopping Centre, Dudley, DY2 7BJ.

4. Yondr Phone Pouches

As previously communicated, from September all students will be issued with a phone pouch. Pouches will be distributed on students' first day back at the Academy, and all students will have received one by **Friday 4 September**. The phone pouch system will then be fully implemented, with all students expected to use their pouches from **Monday 7 September** onwards.

Important: If your child does not own a mobile phone, please email info@oatforge.co.uk so that their Year Team can be made aware.

Please note: Our Focus Without Phones approach is fully supported by current Department for Education guidance. Further information can be found here : [Mobile phones in schools - GOV.UK](#)

For further information about our **Yondr 'Focus Without Phones' initiative**, including answers to frequently asked questions, [click here](#).

5. Arbor

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to Arbor. If you have not yet done so, we kindly ask that you complete your registration over the summer holidays. **Arbor is now being used to record lateness, appointments, and absences. From September 2026, it will also replace ParentPay.** As the school no longer accepts cash payments, parents and carers who are not registered with Arbor will be unable to make payments for school meals, trips, or other items.

If you have not yet signed up, you should have received emails inviting you to create your Arbor account. If you have not received these emails, please contact us at info@oatforge.co.uk, and we will be happy to resend the invitation.

6. Updating Details

Over the summer holidays, we ask that you take a few minutes to ensure that all of your details are up to date on our systems. You can review and update this information through your Arbor account.

In particular, please check that the home address we hold for both students and parents/carers is correct, along with all telephone numbers and email addresses. Having accurate contact information enables us to communicate important updates and contact you quickly when necessary.

If you experience any difficulties updating your details through Arbor, please email the updated information to info@oatforge.co.uk, and we will be happy to assist you.

7. Toilet Passes

If your child requires the use of a toilet pass, please could you ensure that you **email our medical officer, Mr C. Ashford at info@oatforge.co.uk by Friday 14th August with the reason your child requires one and any supporting medical evidence**, if appropriate. To ensure our records are up to date, **this applies to all students, including those previously issued with a pass.**

8. Medications

This is a polite reminder that any medication currently stored on site must be collected by a parent or carer no later than **10 August**. This includes both **prescribed** and **over-the-counter** medications. The school office will be open throughout the summer holiday period from **8:00am to 3:00pm** for medication collection. Please note that any medication remaining on site after **10 August** will be disposed of.

If your child requires medication to be kept in school from September, this will need to be brought into the office when the school reopens to students. Please ensure that all medication is provided in its original packaging. Prescribed medication must also have the pharmacy label attached, clearly displaying the student's name and dosage instructions.

A new medication consent form must also be completed for the new academic year. If you require the form in advance, it is available to download [here](#). Once downloaded, the form can either be printed, completed and returned to the main office, or completed electronically and emailed to info@oatforge.co.uk. Alternatively, paper copies of the form can be collected from the school office during the summer holiday opening hours. **Please do not complete and return any forms before 1st September as these will not be valid and you will be required to complete another form. Medications cannot be given without a valid consent form.**