
Welcome to The UCL Academy e-bulletin for the 2016/17 academic year. If you haven't yet seen, we're trialing a new look! The purpose of this fortnightly e-bulletin is to keep parents, carers and guardians informed about upcoming key events, important changes to the previously published schedule, general notices and news updates. Also included is a brief summary of just some of the many activities and headlines that have taken place at the Academy recently. **Please note new dates/events which have been added in green.**

Autumn 1 Update from the Governing Body

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

As we approach the end of the first half term in Autumn, it has been fantastic to visit the Academy and to see it now at full capacity with all year groups now in place. New students and staff have settled well this term, and this is testament to the strong culture and ethos of the Academy, which was also recognised in our Ofsted report published this term.

Discussions have been held this term on the end of year results for 2015-16, with evidence across all year groups of progress being good.

We are now approaching our first cohort taking their GCSEs in the summer term next year, and as always, there will be continuous review and monitoring towards all students achieving to the best of their ability.

The Co-Principal model has been in place this term, and has been very effective, with robust leadership and management in place at all times.

The impact of Pupil Premium funding has been reviewed, with the report to be uploaded on the Academy website for information in due course.

The governors held a Strategic Away Day in September, reflecting on the defining features of the Academy, the recommendations received in the Ofsted report, and our collective aspirations for the future. The next five year strategy is to now be developed further to the Away Day.

Key items coming up for the next term include the following: Curriculum Review and Forward Planning for 2017-18; Annual Report and Audited Accounts 2015-16; Safeguarding report; Academy Trust meeting with our Sponsor, UCL.

If you have any specific questions to raise to governors, please do direct these via the Clerk to

the Governors, Louise Garcia: l.garcia@uclacademy.co.uk

Please note that all governor updates to parents for the academic year can also be found under the Governance section of the website.

Best regards

David Price, Chair of Governors

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

Tuesday, 22 November 2016 – **Level 3 Open Evening**, 4:00 – 6:30pm

Thursday, 24 November 2016 – **Level 1 Parent Consultations**, 4:30 – 6:30pm

You will have received a letter to book appointments.

Friday, 25 November 2016 – **Late Start**, 9:25am

Week of 28th November — **Level 3 & L3+ Mock Exams**

Friday, 2 December 2016 – **Staff Planning Day**

No school.

Week of 5th December — **GCSE Mock Exams (L2+ Students)**

Wednesday, 7 December 2016 – **UAPA Coffee Morning**, 8:45 – 10:00am

TBD

Tuesday, 13 December — **Winter Showcase**, 6pm - 8pm

All parents welcome. This event will be followed by a UAPA Social Evening.

Thursday, 15 December — **Late Start**, 9:25am

To support Exit Point.

Thursday, 15 December — **No SDL**; 3:30pm finish for Foundation, L1, L1+

Friday, 16 December — **Last Day of Term; 12:30pm Finish for All Students**

Please ensure your student is in school for this day.

Tuesday, 3 January — **Staff Planning Day**

No school.

Wednesday, 4 January — **Late Start, 9:25am**

First day of term.

UAPA – UCL ACADEMY PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to include some key UAPA dates in this week's Parent Bulletin. The UAPA is an informal association of parents and carers, who meet to learn more about the Academy, engage with fellow parents and attend key events and activities.

Since the Academy opened, we have developed the UAPA in many different ways. Each year, we have had a stalwart group of dedicated parents who are involved in what goes on at The UCL Academy.

UAPA member Florie Canolli, along with Robin Street, have worked together to schedule the below dates for the upcoming academic year. Please note that some of these dates are TBC.

UAPA Coffee Mornings & Evenings

Each UAPA coffee morning will take place in the library, and will be hosted by Florie Canolli and a member of staff. The meetings will focus on what is happening at the Academy, and will include presentations from students, discussions about the curriculum and information about key events and activities. The dates for the 2016/17 academic year are as follows:

Mornings

Wednesday 7th December, 2016: 8.45-10.00

Wednesday 8th February, 2017: 8.45-10.00 (Plan the International Day)

Wednesday 24 May, 2017: 8.45-10.00

Evenings

Tuesday 13 December, 2016: 6pm - 8pm (winter showcase; all parents welcome)

Please note: the UAPA is an informal social association for parents and carers. Parents and carers who have individual concerns or queries regarding their child or and Academy policies should attend the SLT evening drop-in sessions, arrange to meet key staff and use the consultation evenings appropriately. It is important the UAPA events remain a vehicle for parents to learn about the school in general, meet socially and support activities and events. If you have any questions, please email parents.association@uclacademy.co.uk.

GENERAL NOTICES

What's Been Happening at the Academy?



November 3 | Sixth Form Open Event

Just a brief list of key headlines at the Academy:

- » Our first Sixth Form / Level 3 Open Event on 3 November was a tremendous success, attracting over 600 prospective students and their parents to the Academy. Our next event is on November 22nd; see the above letter from Simon McBride for further details. Please register at [this link](#).
- » Today, the 11th November was marked by a minute of silence at 11am. All teachers, students and staff participated, and some interesting and sagacious discussions occurred. Thanks to all students for your thoughtful and engaged approach to worldly events—both past, and current!
- » Students across the Academy have been focused on how various forms of collaboration can drive

forward their learning.

TIMINGS OF THE ACADEMY DAY

Please note that you can find the structure for the Academy day based on year level here: <http://www.uclacademy.co.uk/The-Academy-Day>. This includes start and finish times for each year level.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Please be reminded that the correct procedure for reporting your child's absence is by calling 020 7449 3080 and pressing option 1 (student absence) where you will be directed to the Attendance Officer.

STUDENT PUNCTUALITY

It is a common pattern that at this time of the term, student punctuality in the morning begins to worsen. Our process for dealing with late students in the morning is as follows:

- » Students arriving after 8:30am will be marked as late, and should enter the gate at the Harley Road Entrance. Sanctions will be given.
- » Persistent late-comers will be sanctioned after school on a Tuesday. This is a change to last year's process.
- » Where lateness is an ongoing concern, we will be writing to parents directly.

THE ACADEMY IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Local groups, businesses, and organisations are making increasing use of facilities at the Academy. This is very much in line with our desire to be at the heart of the local community. While the majority of our students represent the Academy superbly on the way to and home from school, we would ask all parents and carers to remind their children of the following:

- » Guidance from PC Sweeney and Metropolitan Police: Parents and students should remain aware that any toys that could be misconstrued as weapons are completely banned from the Academy. We urge parents and students to hand any such inappropriate toys to the Police. These include objects such as laser pens, BB guns or any replica weapons. **We have a no tolerance approach to any student**

bringing in objects that may be seen as a weapon.

- » Students should wear their uniform as per the expectations set until they are home or well out of sight of the Academy.
- » We continue to work with Camden Council in regards to the traffic challenges and road crossings around the Academy. Our students in the main are exemplary in terms of how they cross the roads and use public transport. They must though always be vigilant, careful and respectful of others. This is something we have made very clear at the Academy and confirmation of this from home can only help us keep our students safe.

GUIDANCE ON MOBILE PHONES

Please be aware of the procedure on confiscated phones:

At the Academy, we absolutely understand that mobile phones are an important method of communication between parent and child which can enhance student safety. If a student wishes to bring a mobile phone to the Academy, they must ensure that it is kept in their locker and that they are not seen at all in the learning spaces, corridors or in the communal areas. Mobile phones seen or heard by staff inside the Academy will be confiscated, unless a member of staff has given explicit instruction that it can be used. A student's mobile device is their own responsibility. We do not take responsibility for students' losing mobile devices. This information is clearly printed in your child's planner.

If your child's mobile phone is seen by a member of staff when permission has not been given, it will be confiscated. A member of staff will then contact you to inform you. We ask that you please collect the mobile phone from reception between 4:30pm – 6:30pm. Confiscated phones will be kept in the school safe and can only be collected by a parent or guardian unless special dispensation has been given by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

There is absolutely no reason for any student to have their mobile phone out and visible without permission whilst on Academy premises. Should they need to contact a parent or guardian urgently, students must speak to a member of Academy staff.

SOCIAL MEDIA

We share our day to day activities and news on Twitter so please follow us @UCL_Academy. We also regularly update Facebook with news stories and photos.

Twitter: https://twitter.com/UCL_Academy

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/theuclacademy>

TERM DATES AND HOLIDAYS 2016/17

Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 1st September — Friday 16th December 2016

Half-term: Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2016

Winter break: Monday 19th December 2016 to Monday 2nd January 2017

Spring Term 2017

Tuesday 3rd January — Friday 7th April 2017

Half-term: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2017

Spring holiday: Monday 10th April to Friday 21st April

Summer Term 2017

Monday 24th April — Friday 21st July 2017

Half-term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2017

Staff Planning Days 2016/17 (Non-student days)

Friday 2nd December

Tuesday 3rd January

Friday 3rd February

Wednesday 29th March

Wednesday 17th May

Thursday 13th July