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**THE BULWELL
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

22 July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of a truly transformative year at The Bulwell Academy, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared. This year has marked the beginning of a **#newera**—a time of renewed ambition, positive change, and collective achievement across our school community.

We are immensely proud of the progress we've made and the strong foundations we've built together. From the dedication of our staff to the enthusiasm and resilience of our students, and the support of parents, this year has been a testament to what we can accomplish when we work in unity.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to be welcoming our new cohort of Year 7 students in September. We can't wait to see them grow, thrive, and become part of our community.

National Recognition for Behaviour and Culture

Bulwell Academy is now recognised as a model school for behaviour and culture and indeed we were named the most improved school in Nottinghamshire. We regularly welcome visitors from across the Trust and beyond who come to learn from our best practices. Our innovative behaviour curriculum, delivered during form time, helps students understand expectations and develop positive habits.

Outstanding Progress in Behaviour

Thanks to our clear expectations, restorative practice and therapeutic approach to supporting pupils we have reduced **suspensions by 78%** and **permanent exclusions have dropped by 40%**, as recognised in The Times Educational Supplement. Additionally, the number of pupils being removed from lessons has **dropped by 28%**, adding an additional 4500 hours of learning across the school.

Empowering Student Leadership

With over 300 student leaders across the school, our young people are actively shaping their educational experience. They play a key role in decision-making, peer support, and promoting a culture of responsibility and inclusion. Having recently elected our new year 11 prefects we are super excited to see the impact these pupils make across the school next year.



Enriching Learning Beyond the Classroom

This year, we've significantly expanded our educational visits leading 70 trips across all year groups, including:

- University and industry trips
- Cultural experiences like theatre visits and science fairs
- Curriculum-linked excursions that bring learning to life

Community Engagement and Student Voice

Our students have taken part in meaningful community projects, including the Safer Streets and PARM Projects, where they presented to university professors and local leaders. These experiences have built confidence, communication skills, and a sense of civic responsibility.

SEND and Inclusion Successes

We've seen a **5.7% increase in SEND attendance**, a record number of parent/carers attending SEND drop-in sessions, and national recognition by the Young Carers Federation for our young carers and Gateway pupils, including published poetry and successful family engagement programmes.

Safeguarding and Attendance Achievements

Exemplary safeguarding practice was highlighted during the recent Trust Safeguarding Review as well as our Local Authority Safeguarding Partnership Audit, earlier in the year. Overall **attendance has increased by 2.7%** from last year and persistent absenteeism (students who have attendance below 90%) **has reduced by 8.4%**.

A New Framework for Teaching and Learning

Our Teaching and Learning Framework has significantly enhanced the quality of teaching across the academy giving us an identity in the classroom.

Looking Ahead: The #EraOfBelonging

- As we move into the next exciting phase of our journey—the **#eraofbelonging**—our focus is on deepening the sense of connection and shared purpose across our school community. We are committed to ensuring that both pupils and parents feel actively involved in the continued evolution of The Bulwell Academy.
- Next year will see the implementation of a **refreshed curriculum and assessment process**, where *precise feedback* will empower students to clearly understand their progress and the steps needed to improve.
- Alongside academic development, we are placing a strong emphasis on **personal growth** through an enriched careers education programme, the launch of our new Pledge system, and an enhanced role for tutors in supporting each student's journey. Together, these developments will help every learner feel seen, supported, and inspired to thrive.



The end of the summer term

The summer term will end on **Wednesday 23 July at 12:15pm**. The Academy will provide a 'grab & go' lunch for all students on this day.

September 2025

The arrangements for the beginning of the new Autumn term are as follows:

1 September 2025	ACADEMY INSET day	Closed to all pupils
2 September 2025	ACADEMY INSET day	Closed to all Pupils
3 September 2025	Year 7 & Year 11 ONLY	8:00am onwards for 8:30am start.
4 September 2025	ALL year groups	8:00am onwards for 8:30am start.

All Year 7 students will receive a **FREE Bulwell Academy rucksack** complete with pencil case.

If your child is in Year 8-11 and would like a FREE Bulwell Academy rucksack then please complete this **Microsoft Forms**: <https://forms.office.com/e/SihxnZfwGm> by **Monday 18 August 2025** and your child will receive this on their first day back to school.

Support during the Holiday

If you need support during the holiday, please head to our website where we have published information on where to access support in a crisis along with resources for both parents and children relating to your safeguarding and wellbeing: [Support over the Holiday * Bulwell Academy](#)

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support this year. We are now entering a new era of belonging at The Bulwell Academy, and we're all excited about 'the now' and the future.

On behalf of all staff, the Academy Council and Creative Education Trust, have a great summer holiday.

We look forward to seeing pupils return to school in September.

Yours sincerely

Matt Irons
Principal