



Wednesday 8th September 2021

Start of term newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

It has been brilliant welcoming the students back to TFA this week – they have been really enthusiastic and positive on their return, and they are working hard in their lessons. I would like to welcome all new parents and carers to the TFA community, and I look forward to meeting you in person soon. TFA was busy over the summer with a transition summer school, results days and enrolment and significant building works carried out across the school. Our summer results days were covered in the Ilford Recorder (available [here](#) and [here](#)).

I will write to all parents each week with key information and dates, as well as good news from across the school community. Please do look out for the letter – as it will be our key means of communicating with you. All past letters are always available on the TFA website [here](#).

Timings of school day – a reminder that school runs from 08.35-3.00 each day, starting with personal development – so please ensure the students are at school for the 08.35 start.

Contact details – if your contact details (or those of an emergency contact) have changed – please let the office know through the admin@theforestacademy.co.uk email address.

Parent Pay – payment for school meals and trips etc is done through Parent Pay. All new students should have been issued with a Parent Pay letter this week. Please contact the admin email address if you have any issues. Parent Pay can be logged in to online [here](#).

School meals are served in the canteen and a new kiosk in the central playground. While the kiosk is installed we will continue with the lunch service model from last year, and then as soon as possible. If students have any questions, they should speak to their head of year. Names of heads of year are included on the back page of this letter.

Travel to school – on the back page of this letter is a **briefing from TFL** about use of buses and public transport to and from school.

If **collecting or meeting students**, can I please ask you are considerate of our local neighbours. If driving, the areas outside the school gate have double-yellow lines on them – please do not stop there as it makes the road unsafe for people moving to/from school. If meeting students, please wait a few metres from the school gate – or on the grass further away. This makes it safe for everyone to come out of the school gates and prevents overcrowding.

Uniform – for reference, our uniform list is available [here](#). Our supplier contact details are available in the link, and the shop is open in school, every Monday during term time from 12.14-14.00.



Police messages – we have a Safer Schools Police Officer who works very closely with the school community. He PC David Halls, and you will often see him on morning and afternoon patrols. He is contactable through our admin email account.

He has asked us to pass on the flyer (on the back page) around online gangs and exploitation workshops being run for local parents over the coming weeks.

Partnership Evenings – Next week we have partnership evenings for Year 7, 10 and 12. Information should have come directly to your email for year groups involved. This is an important opportunity to meet heads of year, tutors and senior leadership, learn more about the year ahead and how to support your child.

Year 7 – Wednesday 3.30pm-4.30pm

Year 10 – Tuesday 3.30pm-4.30pm

Year 12 – Tuesday 4.30pm-5.30pm.

If you are unable to attend, we will share a recording of the events afterwards.

Open Events – our open events this term are:

- **Open Evening** – Tuesday 21st September – 4-6.30pm
- **Open Mornings** - 9 - 11am - Thursday 23rd September, Tuesday 28th September and Tuesday 12th October

Access to technology – if your child is struggling with IT access at home, e.g. completing online homework etc, please let us know through the admin email account or their head of year. We will support you and should be able to issue a loan laptop to support this access.

Thank you for your support on the students return to school, we look forward to working with you this year.

Kind regards,

Mr Mackintosh
Principal



Heads of year can be contacted through admin@theforestacademy.co.uk by marking the email FAO and their name.

Year 7 – Ms O’Keefe

Year 8 – Mr Onienze

Year 9 – Ms Hornig

Year 10 – Ms Hewitt

Year 11 – Mr Stafford

Sixth Form L2 – Ms Moseley

Sixth Form L3 – Mr Nortey

TfL – School Transport Briefing

- TfL are continuing to ensure students and young people can travel safely and reliably to school and college as they return for the beginning of the new school year.
- Capacity on London’s buses has returned to normal pre-pandemic levels which means they will no longer have designated buses for student travel.
- Customers should take the first available bus that arrives, subject to capacity, and make use of all available seats.
- They are running a full and comprehensive bus network of around 9,000 buses every day, alongside all schoolday-only bus services (routes generally numbered 600-699).
- All customers aged 11 and over must wear a face covering on TfL services for the duration of their journey unless they are exempt. This covers London Underground, London Buses, London Trams, DLR, London Overground and TfL Rail.
- Customers not wearing a face covering may be refused entry or asked to leave the network.
- Specially trained enforcement officers, who patrol the transport network to ensure customers and colleagues remain safe, will continue to run targeted operations.
- For further information about face coverings and exemption cards, please visit: <https://tfl.gov.uk/campaign/face-coverings>
- Windows on buses should be kept open to ensure a good supply of fresh air. The transport network is cleaner than ever, with an enhanced cleaning regime, hospital grade cleaning products, widely available hand sanitiser and UV light fittings on escalator handrails to kill viruses.
- TfL are keeping bus services under review and will continue to closely monitor demand for services to ensure they are running the best possible service.



TOGETHER FOSTERING ACHIEVEMENT

GANGS & EXPLOITATION AWARENESS

A 3-week online programme
for parents and carers



Hosted by **DC Anoushka Dunic**,
East Area Gangs Engagement Officer



This commended FREE course is available online for ALL parents and carers in Barking & Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge! The course is 3 weeks long, with a 2 hour ONLINE session per week. This round will be delivered on Microsoft Teams (This App can downloaded on phones, tablets or laptops). You can remain anonymous and be as interactive as you feel comfortable with.

The dates for this course are **THURSDAYS 16th, 23rd & 30th SEPTEMBER at 7-9pm.**
(All sessions to be attended)

Gangs & Exploitation Awareness Training for Parents and Carers–

We will be discussing the following topics-

- What street gangs are and what they do.
- To understand some of the language/social media used by gangs and young people.
- Looking into the term “county lines”
- The different stages of exploitation and recognise some of the signs and symptoms of children who may have been exploited.
- Stress responses and behaviour.
- Some of the reasons children may be more vulnerable to exploitation by gangs and the link to childhood trauma.
- The trauma experienced by children and young people involved in gang lifestyles.
- “Attachment” and the need for strong, nurturing attachments between parent/caregiver and child.
- Resilience in children.
- Parenting tools.
- Why our children may resist help/support from services and what support is available.

To book your space please follow link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gangs-exploitation-awareness-for-parentscarers-3-week-online-course-tickets-167593878803>



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