



Soar Valley College

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE

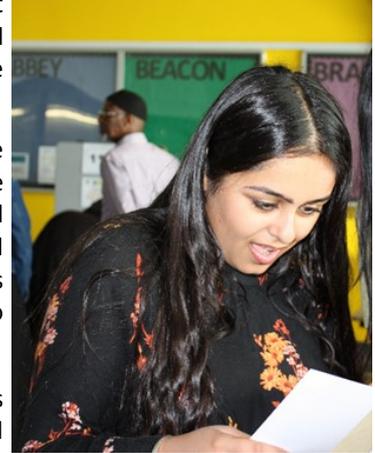
Message from the Principal



Welcome to the new academic year and this, our first newsletter of 2019/20. Newsletters will be published towards the end of each half term, and for more up to date information, please follow us on twitter @soarvalley16

Well done Class of 2019! Huge congratulations to all those who collected their GCSE results last week. There were many superb individual achievements, such as Riya Patel who gained grade 9 in all 9 subjects, and our overall progress score (a measure of how much progress students have made since joining the school in Year 7) is looking to be one of the best ever!

We look forward to welcoming all new Year 7 students this week, those parents and carers new to our community and are looking forward to another successful and busy year ahead.



Uniform

Our uniform brings us together. It is very smart, and reflects the high standards at Soar Valley in all we do. We are looking forward to seeing all our students in the correct uniform on Thursday, and will be having an initial checking procedure on the gates as students arrive. Students are met by staff as they arrive each day in the morning, in order to set a positive tone for the rest of the day.

Please note that full details of the uniform requirements can be found on our website, including pictures of shoes which are and are not acceptable for school.

www.soarvalley.leicester.sch.uk



Attendance is a key to success

It comes as no surprise that students with better attendance perform better academically, and we greatly appreciate the support of parents and carers in ensuring the attendance of their children is as high as possible. We ask that all medical and dental appointments be made out of school time wherever possible, failing that after 2pm so that only one lesson is missed. A note is needed for all absences, which can be written in the student's planner.

100%

Lunchtime and after school activities

We are very proud of the wide range of activities available for students at Soar Valley. A full programme will be published on our website shortly and shared with students. We encourage all to get involved in such activities, as school is about much more than lessons!



School Gateway App

The School Gateway App gives parents/carers access to lots of information about your child – timetable, achievement and behaviour points, attendance record, progress checks (school reports), and more. We will also be starting to accept payments for trips via the app and will provide more information on this in due course.

The School Gateway app is free to download for Apple and android devices. Alternatively, if you do not have access to a phone/tablet you can register via the following website - <https://login.schoolgateway.com>

Free school meals

Did you know your child may be eligible for free school meals. Many students at Soar Valley have the cost of a meal automatically loaded onto their card each day and are able to enjoy a nutritious meal free of charge.

If in receipt of any of the following benefits, you and your child may be eligible.

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

The form to be completed can be found at <https://freeschoolmeals.leicester.gov.uk/>

We are happy to help with the completion of the form; should you wish to have some help, please contact your child's Associate Head of Year in the first instance.

Lunchtime arrangements

There are several options at lunchtimes for students.

The main Dining Hall serves hot meals, jacket potatoes, pasta dishes. Outside, the popular Pod serves sandwiches and other snack foods, as does the serving point in the Main Hall. The Community Lounge is also available for jacket potatoes, Pasta King, sandwiches, etc.

The main Dining Hall is also available each morning before school from 8am, serving breakfast.

Students are able to purchase snack items at breaktime also, from the same places.

Lost property

Each term a large number of items are lost by students and not reclaimed. Please ensure all items are named, including ties and sports kit.

AUTUMN TERM Dates for your Diary

Schools Open	Thursday 29 th August 2019
Mid Term Break	Monday 14 th October – 18 th October
School Closed	Monday 28 th October 2019
Schools Closes	Friday 20 th December 2019

SPRING TERM

Schools Open	Tuesday 7 th January 2020
Mid Term Break	Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 2020
Schools Closes	Friday 3 rd April 2020

SUMMER TERM

Schools Open	Monday 24 th April 2020
May Day	Friday 8 th May 2010
Mid Term Break	Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May 2020
Schools Closes	Friday 10 th July 2020

Parents' Evenings

18/09/2019	Open Evening
09/10/2019	Y11 Post 16 Information Evening
24/10/2019	Y7 Settling in Evening
29/11/2019	Y11 Information Evening
31/10/2019	Y9 Parents' Evening
28/11/2019	Ex Y11 Celebration Evening
23/01/2020	Y11 Parents' Evening
13/02/2020	Y9 Options Evening
5/3/2020	Y8 Parents' Evening
02/04/2020	Y10 Parents' Evening
30/04/2020	Y7 Parents' Evening
23/6/2020	Y7 Celebration Evening
25/06/2020	Y8-10 Celebration Evening