



10 September 2026

Dear parents/carers

I trust that you had a good summer! It was wonderful to welcome back both new and existing students last week, and we have been delighted by a really positive start to the new school year.

As always, there is a huge amount going on, and a number of things to bring to your attention. To save you being bombarded by letters, I have combined a number of items here using information shared by members of the leadership team.

Open Evening – Thursday 24th September (5-7pm)

On Thursday 24th September we will hold our annual Open Evening. This is always a fantastic event, and a great opportunity to showcase the school to prospective students and the wider community.

Our students are our greatest ambassadors and as ever, we will be asking for volunteers from Year 8 to serve as tour guides, and for students in other year groups to support in departments and with welcoming parents. Do encourage your child to be part of this, especially if they are in Year 8.

There is a significant amount of preparation required for the evening and the school day will therefore finish earlier than usual at **12.45pm**. Break time will be extended to 30 minutes, and the final lesson will be period 4.

Meet the Mentor (Year 7) – Thursday 17th September (3.45-5.15pm)

Our Meet the Mentor Evening for all Year 7 parents and carers takes place on Thursday 17th September 2026 from 3.45pm to 5.15pm.

The evening will provide an opportunity for parents/carers to meet key members of staff and learn more about the support available for your child throughout their time at Finham Park School.

The programme for the evening is as follows:

3.45pm – 4.15pm

Meet the College Leaders

College Leaders will be delivering presentations in designated areas across the school, providing an overview of expectations, support and opportunities available to students. Staff will be available to direct to specific locations but for reference please see below.

College	Meet the Mentor locations
Asiatic	The Venue
Nubian	E Block (upstairs)
Katanga	Gym
Masai & Barbary	Sports Hall

Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry, CV3 6EA

Tel: 024 76418135
Email: headteacher@finhampark.co.uk
www.finhampark.co.uk

Headteacher: David Bedford
Chair of Governors: Anne Brennan



THE LION
ALLIANCE



International Cross
of Nails Schools



Human Kind
Staff Wellbeing Award



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



4.20pm – 4.45pm Meet Your Child's Mentor

An opportunity to meet your child's mentor and discuss how they will support your child's transition, wellbeing and progress. Individual mentors will collect parents/carers from the college leader presentations.

4.50pm – 5.15pm Drop-in Session in The Venue

Parents and carers will have the opportunity to meet a range of staff members and ask any questions they may have. Representatives from the following teams and departments will be available:

- SEND
- Family Support Team (including Pupil Premium)
- Attendance
- Extra-curricular Clubs and Enrichment
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Homework Support
- Progress and Attainment
- PSHRE
- Accessing School IT Systems including TEAMS and MCAS

We look forward to welcoming you and working in partnership to ensure your child makes a successful start to their secondary school journey.

Due to limited parking being available in school at 3.45pm please can we ask all parent/carers to either walk to the evening or park off-site.

Year 7 SEND Provision

Many of our new students have joined Finham Park with information from their primary school indicating that they are on the SEND register. Using the information provided, we have created pupil passports which have been shared with teachers and teaching assistants to help them understand and support your child's needs from the outset. We are currently allowing students time to settle into secondary school routines, with targeted SEND interventions beginning from the week commencing 14 September.

Members of the SEND team will be available at the 'Meet the Mentor' event, and all parents and carers of students on the SEND register will be invited to attend a SEND meeting with a member of the team during the weeks commencing 21st and 28th September to discuss support arrangements and answer any questions you may have.



THE LION
ALLIANCE

Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry, CV3 6EA

Tel: 024 76418135
Email: headteacher@finhampark.co.uk
www.finhampark.co.uk

Headteacher: David Bedford
Chair of Governors: Anne Brennan



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



International Cross
of Nails Schools



Human Kind
Staff Wellbeing Award



Meet the Mentor (Sixth Form) – Thursday 17th September (3.45-5.15pm)

Alongside the Year 7 event, there will be a Meet the Mentor event for all sixth form students. Further details will be sent to sixth form parents/carers by Ms Green.

My Child at School

The school partners with an app and website called My Child at School (MCAS) to provide parents with up-to-date information about your child's attendance, behaviour, clubs and trips as well as giving you access to all of their school reports. We also use MCAS as a communication system so **please allow notifications when installing the app**. To find out more about how to activate the app please visit the school website under parent information or click <https://www.finhampark.co.uk/mcas>. If you have more than one child at the school, you can switch between accounts by following the instructions. **Parents with children new to the school will need to activate children individually.**

Mobile phones (Mr Morey – Deputy Headteacher)

It has been wonderful welcoming students back to school and seeing them settle into the new term. We would like to thank parents and carers in the efforts made to fully equip your child for school and ensuring that they arrive on time ready to make a success of the day ahead. The biggest change this year compared to last has been our new approach to smartphones in school. To summarise this has been the following:

Year 7 students:

- A full smartphone and smart device ban will be in place.
- Students will not be permitted to bring smartphones or smart devices into school.
- If a non-smartphone is brought into school, it must be switched off and stored in a bag (not in clothing) between 8:45am and 3:15pm.

Years 8–11:

- A full smart device ban with the exception of smartphones.
- We strongly discourage students from bringing smartphones into school.
- If a device is needed for communication, we recommend a basic (non-smart) phone.
- If a smartphone is brought into school, it must be switched off and stored in a bag (not in clothing) between 8.45am and 3.15pm.

Any phone seen or used during the day will be **confiscated** for a significant period of time. The confiscated period will increase across the year and will include weekends and school holidays:

- Autumn term: 1 week
- Spring term: 2 weeks
- Summer term: 3 weeks





From September 2027

There will be a full smartphone and smart device ban for all students in the main school (Years 7–11).

We have been hearted by the overwhelming support parents and carers have shown for this new approach not only during the months of consultation leading up to the start of this term, but also in supporting us as a school by making clear to your child at home the expectations and potential consequences outlined above. To share some statistics with you, at the time of writing (Wednesday 9th September) we have had 18 incidents across the whole school where a mobile phone has either been seen or has been found to be switched on in a child's bag. In the vast majority of cases this has immediately been handed over to the staff member concerned, negating the need for further consequences.

To make parents aware as soon as a phone is confiscated, an M code is logged and this generates the following automatic text alert that will come from a school telephone number:

"We are informing you that [StudentForename] has had their phone confiscated today and as a result will not be contactable on their phone number until the end of the confiscation period. They have been informed to go to reception at 3.15pm today if they have concerns about getting home safely today."

Deputy Headteacher advert

At the end of this academic year, Ms Megeney will be retiring. Ms Megeney has served the school diligently for 22 years, 11 years as deputy headteacher. She will be much missed.

An advert was released yesterday for the role, with interviews taking place on Wednesday 30th September - Thursday 1st October. We expect to have a strong field of candidates and look forward to securing an exceptional individual for the role.

Summary

Well done for reaching the end! We know from speaking with parents that there is further work for us to do to streamline communication, and we want to continue to make better use of our website for information sharing.

The calendar on the website was updated prior to the summer holiday, and a separate letter is provided alongside this with the key dates for this academic year.

Please do take a moment to read the News section of our website [Finham Park School - News](#). This has updates on our excellent summer results and will be updated periodically to showcase some of the many things we have to celebrate.

Thank you as always for your support, and I look forward to another enjoyable and successful year here at Finham Park.

Kind regards

Mr D Bedford, Headteacher



THE LION
ALLIANCE

Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry, CV3 6EA

Tel: 024 76418135
Email: headteacher@finhampark.co.uk
www.finhampark.co.uk

Headteacher: David Bedford
Chair of Governors: Anne Brennan



FINHAM PARK
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST



International Cross
of Nails Schools



Human Kind
Staff Wellbeing Award