



August 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your family have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the new academic year.

This week we welcomed some of our new year 7 pupils to summer school. They took part in a variety of activities to support them in transition into St Edmund Arrowsmith. Feedback from pupils has been very positive and I am looking forward to working with them when they join us in September.

Today our Y11 leavers received their GCSE results; it was lovely to see so many smiling faces and hear what they were going on to study. There was a significant improvement in the results this year with 3x the number of pupils achieving grades 9-5 in English and maths. I am truly delighted that so many of them are able to move on to their chosen college courses and apprenticeships – this reflects their hard work, the dedication of their teachers and the support they received from their families (the Super Saturdays and holiday revision sessions definitely paid off!) It is not only their academic achievement that I am proud of but the young people that they have become – they were a wonderful year group who will be missed in school. However, we look forward to celebrating their successes at Prize Giving in December. In the meantime, I wish them the very best of luck in their future and would like to remind them that we are always here for them should they need us.

Return to School

I look forward to welcoming your child back to school and working with them as we continue to learn and 'live life in all its fullness'. Pupils return on the dates below:

- **Wednesday 2nd September – Year 7 and Year 11**
- **Thursday 3rd September – Year 8, Year 9 and Year 10**

All pupils should arrive at school no later than **8.30am**, ready for the start of the school day. Free breakfast is available for all pupils from **8.15am**. *Please note school photographs will be taken of Year 7 & 11 pupils on Wednesday 2nd September.*

September is always an opportunity for new beginnings, and we encourage all our pupils to make the most of the fresh start that a new academic year brings. To support our pupils in having a positive start to the year, I would like to share a few reminders regarding our standards and expectations.

Attendance and Punctuality

So that your child reaches their full potential, they must attend school every day.

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please contact the Attendance Team on **0151 477 8770** and select the appropriate option, or email the attendance team before **8.30am** each day of absence.

Headteacher: Mrs C McKenna BSc Hons NPQH | **School contact:** 0151 477 8770 | email: admin@seaca.pfcmat.org

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To prevent pupils from missing learning, we ask that appointments are made outside of the school day wherever possible. Holidays during term time are not authorised except in exceptional circumstances.

Pupils must arrive in school no later than **8.30am** and be ready to learn. Late arrival impacts learning and achievement. Pupils who arrive late without a valid reason will receive a detention in line with the school's attendance procedures.

Uniform

All pupils must return to school in full uniform, including:

- School blazer
- School tie
- Black leather or leather type school shoes

Trainers, Converse shoes, boots and hoodies are not permitted.

Jewellery, make-up, false nails, false eyelashes and false tan **must be removed** before returning to school. Pupils may wear **one small pair of stud earrings in the lower earlobe only**. No other piercings are permitted.

Further information regarding uniform can be found on our website. [Saint Edmund Arrowsmith Uniform](#)

Bags and Equipment

All pupils must bring a **black school bag** each day. This should be large enough to carry their planner, equipment, books, mobile phone pouch and any materials required for learning.

Mobile Phones

As explained in my end of year letter July 2026, Saint Edmund Arrowsmith Academy is a mobile phone free school. From September, all pupils will be provided with their own mobile phone pouch which they must bring to school every day. Their phone and smart watch/ear buds, if they have them, must be switched off and placed into their designated phone pouch before crossing the blue line and entering school. Pupils must keep their phone securely stored in the pouch throughout the school day.

At the end of the school day, pupils will be able to unlock their pouches using the designated unlocking stations located outside school.

This approach supports our commitment to:

- Improving focus and engagement in learning.
- Promoting positive social interaction.
- Reducing online-related anxieties during school hours.
- Encouraging healthy relationships with technology.
- Creating a calm and inclusive school environment.

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Any pupil found carrying a mobile phone outside of their pouch or using their phone during the school day will be dealt with in line with our Care, Support, Guidance and Behaviour Policy. These phones will be confiscated and must be collected by a parent or carer.

If a pupil forgets their pouch, their phone will be stored securely in reception for the day, and the pupil will be placed on detention on the first occasion.

To ensure that all pupils are complying with this policy there will be random searches. We greatly appreciate your support in helping pupils understand and follow these expectations.

Food and Drinks

Lollipops and energy drinks are not permitted on school premises due to health and safety concerns. Sweets and crisps are permitted only at break and lunchtime and should not be consumed during lessons.

Toilets

To minimise disruption to learning and maintain safeguarding arrangements, pupils are expected to use toilet facilities before school, during break time or at lunchtime unless they have an agreed medical pass.

Working Together

I hope you have had the opportunity to read our end of year newsletter over the summer holidays which showcases many of the achievements, events and opportunities that our pupils enjoyed throughout the year. We look forward to further developing these opportunities throughout this academic year.

I value working in partnership with parents as I believe this is how young people achieve the most successful outcomes. Your support, encouragement and trust are greatly appreciated, and I look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the coming year.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish all of our pupils every success for the year ahead.

Kind regards,

Mrs C McKenna
Headteacher

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