



05/08/2016

Dear Parents, Assalamu alaikum

I hope and pray that Allah swt showers His Blessing on you and your loved ones. In these Mubarak days we pray that Allah swt forgives all of our sins and relieves the difficulties from all those who are suffering. Please see the following announcements and information.

The school will be closed on 12-13 Sept for Eid next week. This is a change from the calendar which had estimated dates.

### Headteacher

As some of you may have been aware I took on the additional responsibility for the role of Headteacher since February 2016. The Headteacher, Mohamed Sidat has not been at the school since this time due to personal reasons that I cannot disclose. I'm glad to report that our processes and procedures to handle such events are robust.

### Building Staff Capacity and Capability

Since January 2016, I have employed the services of an Ofsted inspector for around 1 day per week, to build the capacity and capability of our teachers through training and coaching of the school's Middle Leaders i.e. Head of Departments (HODs). Further training is planned with Mrs Messaoudi, who is an ex-OFSTED Inspector and School's consultant, in the new academic year.

### Teaching Structure Review

Since February a number of improvements have been made to the school namely:

- Sr Rehana has been re-employed at ACS since April 2016 as a HOD for EYFS and KS1. This is a new post and ensures that our provision for all classes up till Year 2 is well monitored.
- HODs in the both primary and secondary schools have been upskilled in leadership roles
- Better and more regular monitoring of teaching and learning and as a result, teachers have improved in their teaching practices
- A new behavior policy was introduced in the secondary school in April 2016 which focused more on rewards for good behavior.
- The KS4 GCSE curriculum was started in year 9 for many subjects. This will make it easier to complete the GCSE syllabus in these subjects.
- Homework club started in the secondary school.
- We have 'Active Learn' subscriptions for Maths and Science, with over 4000 auto-marking interactive questions, 1000 interactive worked examples and over 500 supporting videos. Pupils in the secondary have been set tasks during the summer holidays so that they are best prepared for the new academic year.
- Our Year 6 pupils have done very well in their SATs exams. The 2016 key stage 2 assessments are the first which assess the new, more challenging national curriculum which was introduced in 2014. The new SATs do not provide levels results. Instead they give results based on the age appropriate levels of achievement for pupils. The results are:-

SATS L2 results	Maths	Reading	GPS
ACS	87%	80%	93%
National average	70%	66%	72%
As an example, these results show that 87% of our pupils reached their expected level or better in Maths compared with National Average which was 70%.)			

- The year 11 GCSE results are also good. 74% of Pupils gained 5 or more A\*-C grades including English and Maths. This compares well with the national average of 69%.

Further improvements are planned in September 2016, that include:

#### Teaching Improvements

- Fridays will go back to a normal full day from 5th Sept. School timings will be:

Year Group	Days	Start time	End time
Nursery & Reception	Every day	Morning: 8:30am	11:30am
		Afternoon: 12pm	3pm
1 - 6	Every Day	8:30am	3pm
7 - 8	Every Day	8:30am	3:15pm
9 - 11	Mon – Thu	8:25am	4:20pm
9 – 11	Fri	8:25am	3:15pm

- We will have an extended day for Years 9 – 11 to give our pupils the best chances of achieving the highest GCSE grades. Hence from Wed 7<sup>th</sup> all year pupils in Years 9-11 will have lessons until 4:20pm (see table above).
- Homework club will continue in secondary school from 3:20pm – 4:20pm Mon - Thur
- We are introducing Psychology GCSE (A subject in line with increased opportunities for students as part of STEM and increased career opportunities)

#### Capability Improvements

- We have bought into CAT4 (cognitive ability tests) and other National benchmarking tests for the secondary school. Exams in English, Maths and Science will be taken by all pupils in the secondary school at the start of the academic year and at the end of the academic year. These are used by hundreds of school across the country and these support school in achieving better outcomes for all pupils.
- The school has bought into Accelerated Reader to help in accelerating the learning of our pupils. (See <http://www.renlearn.co.uk/success-story/>).
- The school has bought into Target Tracker for the Primary school to help in the tracking pupils' progress across all classes in the Primary school including our EYFS classes.

As you can see a lot has been achieved over the academic year and more is planned in the coming year. I shall convene a meeting towards the end of September 2016 for all parents who have any concerns on any matters regarding the school.

Finally, I would request parents to join our FACS team (Friends of Ayesha Community School) to help in organising events and raising funds. FACS raises valuable funds which we use to buy much needed resources as you can see above. FACS also have a regular meeting cycle with me and for discussing school matters. Please enquire at our reception office if you want to join FACS.

Jazakallahu khairun  
Shakil Ahmed  
Principal, Ayesha Community School