

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024

# BULLETIN

Welcome to  
**IVANHOE**  
SCHOOL

A journey to excellence

All visitors please report to reception  
Tel 01530 412756 [ivanhoe.co.uk](http://ivanhoe.co.uk)

## Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our Year 8, 9, 10 and Year 11 parents. Also, a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 parents. It always makes me feel proud to see the students coming back through the gates at the beginning of term, looking smart and happy, with the gaggle of excitement that the new school year brings.

It's only been a couple of days, but Year 7 are settling in really well. They are navigating the school and engaging with our staff with confidence, and already building new friendships. Well done Year 7.



Most weeks I will send you a bulletin that contains a mix of updates from the Senior Leadership Team, information from departments and a round-up of things that have happened during the week. We would also encourage you to follow us on social media, for further updates, links and pictures.

As we continue our development as an 11-16 school, we continue to focus on the '5 year journey'. Our newest cohort of Key Stage 4 students, who chose to stay on at Ivanhoe, are beginning their GCSE journey in Year 10 and the Year 11s enter a very important year of their journey with us. Thank you to all the families that have chosen to be part of the Ivanhoe family.



We had a fantastic results day with our departing Year 11 students. Our staff predictions of where our students would be were very accurate and we had very happy students and parents on the day. The majority of our students have already secured post 16 placements from 6<sup>th</sup> form to college, apprenticeships and even the armed forces. We hope to keep in touch with our alumni and follow their progress in the future. A huge congratulations to them all.

We are just finalising our school clubs and sports practices and these will be released as soon as possible. Please encourage your child to try something, even if it is something brand new to them.



## Reminder – 2pm Finish for Professional Development of School Staff

In order to continue to support the professional development of our teaching teams and to foster collaboration across LiFE MAT, all our schools will be finishing early on the following dates to facilitate Cross-MAT professional learning opportunities for our staff



- 14/11/2024
- 16/01/2025
- 13/02/2025
- 13/03/2025
- 08/05/2025
- 26/06/2025

Finishing the school day at 2 pm offers significant benefits for teachers by providing dedicated time for professional learning that includes both subject-specific training and career development.

This earlier dismissal allows LiFE Trust teachers to participate in focused professional development sessions without end-of-day fatigue, enhancing their ability to absorb and implement new strategies. Subject-specific training ensures teachers stay updated with the latest advancements in their fields, leading to more effective lessons and improved student outcomes.

**We will remind you of these dates in our regular communications during the year.**

## Arbor Communication App

The Arbor app can be used by parents to check on your child's timetables, house points, consequences and more.



Every parent has an account set up for you. To finish creating your account you just need to set a password. Your username is the email address you have given to school. Go to <https://login.arbor.sc> and click 'Forgot your password?' to finish setting up your account.

We have put together a help page with more information for you [HERE](#). If you have any queries or difficulties logging in please contact [arborhelp@ivanhoe.co.uk](mailto:arborhelp@ivanhoe.co.uk)

The Arbor App can be downloaded from either the Play Store on android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones. Please note you will not be able to log into the app until you have followed the instructions above to set up your account.

## Assessments

All students will be having some initial tests over the first few weeks. Reading, spelling tests and CATs (Cognitive Ability Tests) primarily. These are nothing to be worried about: they provide a baseline for us to diagnose strengths and areas to develop. If you have any queries about assessment, please contact [M.konig@ivanhoe.co.uk](mailto:M.konig@ivanhoe.co.uk)

## Homework Assignments – How do I know what my child has been set?

In recent years many schools have moved to an online system for communicating with parents and students about homework set. We know from parental feedback that many of you would like to have this as it will help you have a better overview of what is being set and when it's due in to help manage, support and monitor your child's homework.



This year we will be notifying both students and parents of homework assignments through our online school system – Arbor

Students can also make a note of homework in their notebooks.

I know many of you already have the app, if not you can download from your usual app store or log on to the web version through your usual browser.

Here is an explanation video of how it works. Please watch this so you can understand how it works and let me know if you have any questions. [For parents](#)

Students do not have an app, they will need to log on to the web version with their own details not the parent's.

We will be showing students how to do this in detail in form time next week. If they want to get ahead they here is the link to student instructions you can share with them. [For students](#)

We will suggest they book mark the page on their devices.



As with any new technology it will take a while to iron out any snags and for us all to get used to the new system so please bear with us.

## Attendance

Our ethos is that school is a good place to be, and we've embedded that in our attendance strategy by committing to provide an environment where all pupils feel valued and welcome. Our parents and students play a huge part in making our school successful and ensuring that every child has a right to access the education to which he/she is entitled.

Parents and teachers share the responsibility for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality for all.



### WHY ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Regular attendance is crucial for academic success. Here are some reasons why you should make sure your child is in school every day.

#### BETTER EDUCATION AND GRADES

Students who miss school miss lectures, notes, class discussions, assignments, quizzes, and tests. Even if they miss just a few days here and there, their grades are likely to suffer.

#### MORE EFFECTIVE LEARNING

When students are in class, they learn the material along with their classmates. When they're not in class, they have to learn the material on their own, which is time-consuming, stressful, and a much less effective way to learn.

#### ABLE TO STAY ON TRACK

Chronic absenteeism is a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school and not graduate. Students who are chronically absent can also get so far behind that they are unable to graduate on time with their classmates.

#### MORE VALUE ON EDUCATION

When students know that they're expected to be in school every day, they get the message that school and education are important.

There is a reason that attendance is at the heart of the Ivanhoe Way. Any absence (including lateness) affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. Any student's absence disrupts teaching routines so may affect the learning of others in the same class.

At Ivanhoe we want our students to achieve their dreams! Students with low attendance are less likely to achieve the GCSE grades they need to successfully move on to their preferred Post 16 choices. We must again draw parents attention again to changes to penalty notice fines for unauthorised absences. You will see that the fines and other sanctions are increasing massively.

As a school we do not impose fines, nor do we receive any of the proceeds from the fines. However, we do have a legal obligation to report our attendance and absences to the local authority.

We try to publish our term dates clearly and as early as possible to allow parents to avoid such fines when booking holidays. Please familiarise yourselves with the [dates on our website](#).

### Penalty Notices for unauthorised absences: What you need to know about the changes.

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024.

#### 5 Consecutive Days of Term Time Leave.

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, and for fewer days where this has happened before.

#### 10 Sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10-week period.

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10-week period.

#### Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent, for each child who was absent.  
For example: 3 sittings absent for term time leave will result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

#### First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£60 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.  
Reduced to £30 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

#### Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£60 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.  
(No option to pay at £30 level)

#### Third offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will proceed to the Magistrates' court.  
Magistrate's fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child.

Please consult your school's attendance policy and speak with your school if you are thinking of taking your child out of school during term-time. It is likely you will need to make a written request to take your child out of school and any leave of absence will need to be agreed by your Headteacher before it is taken.



Leicestershire County Council

## The School Day

Students should be onsite no later than 8.30am to avoid the chance of a late mark. We run a 2-week timetable, Week A and B. Please check your child's timetable in their print out or on Arbor. Students should wear PE kit on their PE days. This may be different each week.

Form Time	8.30-9.05am
Period 1	9.05-10.05am
Period 2	10.05-11.05am
Break	11.05-11.25am
Period 3	11.25-12.25pm
Lunch	12.25-13.05pm
Period 4	13.05-14.05pm
Period 5	14.05-15.05pm

Following our successful trial of whole school breaktimes last year, we will now be returning to whole school lunch as well. There will be an early and late sitting for lunch to reduce queuing, and the year groups will rotate on a fortnightly basis (considering our 2 week menu)

In addition, we have listened to our student council who asked for another selling point for quick grab items (such as drinks and snacks) for students not wanting to purchase a full lunch.

## No Drop Off or Pick Up on School Site

Thank you to the majority of parents who have been using the library carpark as a drop off and pick up spot. There are still some parents (about 20) who are attempting to drive on to school site in the morning to drop off their children. This is a safety and space issue. We have 6 buses which need to drive into the site and download the student passengers so there is simply not enough space for parent cars. Duty staff in the morning will be redirecting parents from Monday to alternative drop off points. Thank you for your cooperation with this important safety message.

## Lunchtimes

Students were very this week as we had some snagging issues with our new single lunch. On Thursday, there was an unexpected issue with biometric payment system on the first day for year 7s which meant all student orders had to be manually recorded. All students, in all years, were given additional time for eating and no consequences were given for any students late to lesson 4. This has now been resolved.

## Noodle

The Friday duty team received a helping hand from our very own Noodle the School Doodle today. Noodle joined Ivanhoe as part of the team back in May but wasn't quite big enough to spend time with our students outside at break and lunch. She is now four months old and has settled brilliantly into school life, so today, she joined our team on bus duty, had a wander around at break and then enjoyed some cuddles and lots of attention during our lunch break.



Students were incredibly enthusiastic to interact with her but very respectful of her boundaries and ensured that she didn't feel overwhelmed by so many new and friendly faces. She even managed to squeeze time in for a quick nap in the Learning Zone after lunch!

I am sure Noodle will be back on duty in the very near future so make sure you keep an eye out for her next adventure at Ivanhoe.





## Pastoral Hub Bulletin



If you didn't get a chance to read our Pastoral Hub Bulletin at the end of last year, please take a chance to check it out. In particular you can find information about your child's year group team. Click the picture for the link.

## PSHRE and Wider Personal Development

Please find below information about next week's topics for PSHRE. If you have any queries regarding these, please contact our subject leader Claire Gee on [c.gee@ivanhoe.co.uk](mailto:c.gee@ivanhoe.co.uk). The curriculum resources for these all lessons are available for parents on request.

PSHRE Topics 29/08/24-06/09/24		
	PSHRE Topic	RE Topic
Year 7	Intro	First Impressions
Year 8	Intro	First Impressions
Year 9	Intro	First Impressions
Year 10	Intro	First Impressions
Year 11	Intro	First Impressions



## Ivanhoe Way – Magic Monday Focus

Throughout the year in form time, we look at practical ways that the 'Ivanhoe Way' can be applied to help students achieve and be happy learners. Next week we will be focussing on:

***Be Kind***

That's all for this week. Have a lovely weekend.

**Mrs Allford - Headteacher**