



STEWARDS ACADEMY

SCIENCE SPECIALIST

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Headteacher: Mrs H. Ginger BSc Mathematical Sciences

18th July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: Introduction to Arbor

Along with all of the other schools in our Trust, we have changed our Management Information System (MIS) to Arbor which will be active in September 2024. Arbor is an extremely secure cloud-based system, which eliminates the need to store personal information on school systems.

Arbor not only provides an efficient MIS but also offers a Parent Portal and app, which will enable you to access your young person's details at any time and see current information on their progress and attendance and much more. To allow our staff time to embed the new system, the parent and student app will be launched in the second and third week of September 2024.

There is a lot of work going on behind the scenes at present building the new system and staff are busy undertaking training, so the transition is as smooth as possible. We are working to a carefully planned schedule, which will include a graduated roll out. In time there will be more functions available to you through the parent portal, eliminating the need for you to access different apps/websites.

Some of the key benefits to this change are:

- **Check on your child from anywhere:** With the Arbor App, you can check in on your children from anywhere – all you need is a phone.
- **Access important information about your child in one place:** See your child's attendance, behaviour and progress this week as well as for the year so far. You can also see upcoming homework and download report cards for your child.
- **Get updates from school via push notifications:** Get notified when your school sends out a new message via the App.
- **Make payments on the go:** Manage tasks like making payments and booking trips or parents' evenings.
- **Streamlining** – Everything is in one place, so you won't need to use a variety of apps.



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Please note that Classcharts will not be active on our return to school in September 2024.

Until now, you have reported student absence via Iris Reach and Classcharts but as of 1st September this will not be available. Whilst we are working on the launch of the Arbor app, please report any absences in the following way:

Email: studentabsence@stewardsacademy.org

Phone: 01279 772511

We will of course provide you with information nearer to the time that we roll out the parent/student applications. You do not need to take any action at present, just keep an eye out early in September for our Arbor emails, especially for details on the Parent Information Evenings.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours sincerely,

Gareth Hughes
Assistant Headteacher