



The Lowry Academy
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Weekly Parent Communications



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Principal's Notes

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you and your families are well. On Tuesday, our students returned to school, and shortly after, the very cold weather arrived. While we have gritted the site several times each day, conditions have been challenging. Please ensure your child is wearing a suitable coat. I know it might not always be considered 'fashionable,' but staying warm and safe is most important during this weather.

This week, I want to share some important updates with you about term-time holidays and lockdown procedures.

Term-Time Holidays

Are you considering taking your child out of school for a holiday during term time?

I want to remind all families that parents and carers do not have a right to take their children out of school during term time and may be fined if holidays are taken without the school's consent. If you are thinking about taking your child out of school during term time for a family holiday, you must notify me in writing. Please note that, unless there are exceptional circumstances, such requests will not be authorised, and this could lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued.

A fixed penalty notice works similarly to a parking ticket, where the costs escalate if not paid promptly. The fine is £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid within 28 days. It's the responsibility of the Local Authority to decide when to issue fines to parents, however, under the national rules, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons. In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160. To avoid this, I urge families to book holidays during school holidays only.

Lockdown Procedures

As part of our ongoing commitment to safeguarding, we will be conducting a lockdown practice in the coming weeks. This drill is a standard safety procedure designed to prepare for any unlikely emergency that may require us to secure the school premises. I want to reassure you that this is not in response to any specific threat or incident but part of our wider policies to ensure everyone's safety. During the drill, staff will calmly guide students through the procedures, and we will make every effort to minimise any disruption. Teachers will also be available to answer students' questions and provide reassurance. If you feel it would help, we encourage you to talk to your child about the importance of these drills at home, highlighting that they are as routine as fire drills. Should you have any concerns or questions, please contact your child's Head of Year or Form Tutor. Your support is invaluable as we work together to maintain a safe and secure environment for everyone.

Year 10 Mid-Year Assessments

Finally, a reminder that Year 10 mid-year assessments will take place next week. I am delighted to share that all students attended the after-school booster sessions this week. Well done to all involved—it's fantastic to see.

Thank you as always for your continued support, and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards,
Claire Coy





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Year 10 Mid-Year Assessments - Maths and English

Dear Parent / Carer,

To support our Year 10 students with preparation for their Mid-Year Assessments (and to also reinforce the expectations required for GCSE examinations), this week the Maths and English faculties delivered P6 (after school booster sessions) to our Year 10 cohort. Attendance to both sessions was superb. Thank you to parents and carers for your support and encouraging your child to attend.

On Monday, 13th January Year 10 students will be sitting their Maths Mid-Year Assessment and on Tuesday, 14th January students will sit their English Mid-Year Assessment. We will be delivering boosters on both mornings starting at 8am. Year 10 students have been informed of these and reminded on a number of occasions. Please encourage your child to attend these 8am boosters, they really do help to focus on exam techniques and key knowledge just before the students enter their exam/assessment, which will begin at 9am on both days.

Thank you again for your support and encouragement in helping your child prepare effectively for their assessments.

Kind Regards,

Miss S Wells
Assistant Principal – Assessment, Data & Interventions

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School based Vaccination Programme

Dear Parent / Carer

We have been asked by the Salford 0-19 Immunisations Team to re-share the following information with families regarding the immunisations for Year 9 students on 27th January 2025. Please do not forget to provide your consent via the link:



3-in-1 Teenage Booster (DTP) and Meningitis ACWY are usually offered to children in Yr 9 approx. age 13-14. The teenage booster, also known as the 3-in-1 or the Td/IPV vaccine, is given to boost protection against 3 separate diseases: Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio. The MenACWY vaccine protects against 4 strains of the meningococcal bacteria – A, C, W and Y – which cause meningitis and blood poisoning (septicaemia).

The 0-19 Immunisations team alongside the school Nurses are working in partnership with your child's school to deliver these high school age vaccinations. These vaccinations are not routinely offered at GP practices. All Immunisations are extremely important and ensure that your child is protected later in life, the DTP and MenACWY vaccinations are given alongside each other and will be offered to your child, in school by nurses.

The school Nurses are now using an electronic platform for consenting and information delivery, which is a faster, more efficient and a safer way to deliver your child's health information back to the team.

STEP 1: FOLLOW LINK BELOW AND SELECT YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL

STEP 2: Please either register for an account if this is your first time using the Thomson parent portal or login if you have already created an account. If this is your first time registering, you will receive an email to confirm your account and set a password.

STEP 3: Once you login you can read the information on this year's DTP and MenACWY vaccination campaign and submit the form so that you can receive your electronic results letters. You will have the opportunity to opt out of the vaccination program, if you do not complete a form telling us YES or NO, we will not be able to vaccinate and protect your child.

The electronic consent form allows you to refuse these vaccinations for your child however, if you are thinking of taking this step please talk to your GP or ask to speak to your school nurse first, it is very important that you take this opportunity to protect your child against these very serious diseases.

It is vital the consent form is completed as soon as possible, or on receiving this link, as we will be visiting your child's school during this term.

If you have any problems with the above consent form link, please contact School screener parent support line on 020 3958 4181 or email parentsupport@schoolscreeener.com



Please click the link below:

<https://app.schoolscreener.com/Portal/#/Salford/g/SaiTB2425>

All health-related information is kept confidential however, in some instances this may be shared on a need-to-know basis with other services including the school, to enable better support for your child in school. The School Nurse's will contact you to discuss the need to share other health-related information where relevant.

Should you have any questions about the School Age Immunisation Program please contact us via the email address above and we will endeavour to respond to you within 48 hours.

Yours sincerely,

Salford 0-19 Immunisations Team

Imms.team5-19@nca.nhs.uk

0161 206 8821

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Youth SEND Council

Dear Parent / Carer,

Salford SEND Youth Council have asked us to share the below flyer with families as they are looking for young people who want to get involved and have their say.

The youth voice group is for anyone aged 11 to 25 with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND), who lives, is educated or works in Salford. They meet weekly, to plan events, work on campaigns, and promote positive stories of young people with SEND in Salford.



The flyer is a dark teal poster with a white central box. At the top left is the Youth Hub Salford City Council logo. The title 'Youth SEND Council' is in large white font. Below it is an illustration of diverse young people, including one in a wheelchair. The central white box contains text about eligibility and meeting details. At the bottom, it includes contact information and a QR code. The bottom of the poster features a row of colorful hands reaching up.

Youth Hub
Salford City Council

Youth SEND Council

Do you live in Salford and are aged 11 to 25?
Do you have any Special Educational Needs or Disabilities?
Would you like to get involved in developing services?

Come along on a Tuesday evening
6.30pm - 8.30pm
The Beacon Centre, 6 London Street, Salford, M6 6QT
(starting from 14th January 2025)

Salford Parent Carer Forum will also run a group alongside the Youth SEND Council.

Contact us to book your place or to find out more about the Youth SEND Council and Salford Parent Carer Forum.
SENDyouthcouncil@salford.gov.uk
or scan the QR code below



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Pre-Loved Shop Donations

Dear Parent / Carer,

As the cold snap continues, if you have any winter boots, shoes, coats or any other pre-loved warm clothing items your children no longer have the need for, please do send them into school during January.

We have 10 £5 Greggs Vouchers for families that send in any clothing. Please take any items to the main reception.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Kind regards,

Mrs S Smith
Community Lead

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Diary dates

Please make a note of the following dates, further information will be sent to families closer to specific events:

| Date(s) | Relevant to | Event |
|--|--------------|---|
| Monday 27th January 2025 | Year 9 | Nurses in school - DTP/MenACWY immunisations |
| Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th January 2025 | Year 9 | Guided Choices Day |
| Friday 31st January 2025 | All Families | INSET Day – School Closed to Students |
| Thursday 6th February 2025 | Year 10 | Parents Evening |
| Monday 10th February 2025 | Year 9 | DTP/MenACWY immunisation catch ups |
| Thursday 13th February 2025 | Years 7 – 9 | Academic Review Meetings |
| Friday 14th February 2025 | All Families | Students finish for half-term |
| Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2025 Half-Term Holiday | | |
| Monday 24th February 2025 | All Families | Students return to school for normal registration |
| Thursday 28th February 2024 | Years 7 - 9 | Academic Review Meetings |

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