



The Lowry Academy

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Part of United Learning

Weekly Parent Communications



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Senior Vice Principal's Notes

Dear Families,

As we reach the end of this half term at The Lowry Academy, I would like to take a moment to reflect on a busy and rewarding final week. A highlight for many was the three-day trip to the Lake District, where some of our Year 8 and 9 students enjoyed outdoor activities such as rafting, team challenges, and exploring the beautiful surroundings. This experience was not only a fantastic opportunity for adventure but also for personal growth and building teamwork skills.

Looking ahead, the first week back promises to be an exciting and important one. Our annual Halloween Discos will take place—Tuesday for our visiting primary school students, and Wednesday for Years 7, 8, and 9. We will also hold a raffle of Halloween surprises as a reward for students with excellent attendance.

I would also like to remind parents of Year 11 students that mock exams will begin after the break. This is a crucial time for our Year 11s as they prepare for these important assessments, and we encourage all students to use the half term to revise and rest so they are ready to do their best.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half term break, and we look forward to welcoming our students back, ready for the exciting activities and challenges ahead.

As always, if you have any comments or questions, feel free to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Stephen Fletcher





Content List

Date: Friday 18th October 2024

School / Community Information	Year Group relevant to	Page Number
School Standards	All Families	4-6
Settling in Evening	Year 7	7
Key Stage 3 Academic Reviews	Years 7, 8, 9	8
SEND drop in sessions	All families / young people with SEND	9

Upcoming Events	Year Group relevant to	Page Number
Dates for your Diary	Years 7 - 11	10



School Standards

Dear Parent / Carer,

As we enter the last half-term of 2024, I would like to touch base with all our families to reaffirm our Academy rules and routines. The partnership between school and home is key to ensuring our students' success, and we appreciate your support in helping all students meet our expectations.

Attendance

Attendance is crucial for academic success. Students who maintain good attendance (above 97%) at The Lowry Academy significantly outperform their peers nationally, thanks to the excellent teaching and support we provide. We expect students to attend every day and aim for that 97% attendance target. U codes (indicating lateness to school) and refusal to attend supportive Respite placements count against this figure, so it is important for students to arrive on time each day, regardless of their educational location.

We have 6 pairs of tickets (One adult and One child) to attend the Manchester United vs Leicester Carabao Cup game on Wednesday 30th October. These will be given at random to 6 learners who have 97% or more attendance, and excellent behaviour, on Monday 28th October.

We are also raffling off our fabulous Halloween Bouquets to 4 students who have had 100% attendance between the 9th and 30th October on Halloween.

Uniform

Most parents are aware of our high expectations regarding uniform. Our uniform is a key aspect of our school culture, and we expect students to adhere to our policies. Details can be found on our website, but here are some key points to reiterate:

- The school blazer is not optional and must be worn at all times. Students may remove it during lessons with the classroom teacher's permission, but it must be worn in the corridors. Please ensure that sleeves are rolled down.
- Skirts must be of an acceptable length and display at least four royal blue stripes.
- Trousers must be plain and straight legged; flares or tight trousers are not permitted.
- Only plain black socks are allowed (no bows or frills).
- Trainers are not permitted as footwear. Acceptable examples are available on the school website.
- Hair must be a natural colour and conventionally cut.
- Piercings are limited to one small set of studs; no other jewellery is allowed.
- False or coloured nails are not permitted.
- Only natural makeup is allowed.

Last academic year, we introduced The Lowry Line policy, which states that failure to comply with any of the above will result in a lunch time same-day detention at lunchtime.



In addition, we have implemented PE uniform days to maximise learning time by reducing the time spent in changing rooms. On PE days, students are asked to wear their PE kit to school. Key points to note are:

- The school blazer must be always worn over the PE kit. Students may remove it during lessons with the classroom teacher's permission, but it must be worn in the corridors. Please ensure that sleeves are rolled down.
- Tracksuit trousers or shorts must be black.
- School uniform must be carried in bags in case of wet weather so students can change back to normal uniform at the end of the lesson.
- In addition, earrings will have to be removed for PE and long hair must be tied back. This is for Health and Safety reasons and is recommended by the PE Association.

Equipment

Being equipped and ready to learn is essential for fostering a culture of academic excellence. We ask all students to carry a pencil case containing at least two black pens, two green pens, two pencils, a ruler, and an eraser. They should also have their Book of Academic Excellence to collect merit points in class.

Homework

Research shows that homework reinforces key knowledge and is linked to academic success. With this in mind, we expect students to complete homework each evening. A homework club runs each lunchtime in the Maths area for students who need support, and the deadline for completion is Friday at 4pm. Failure to complete homework will result in a detention the following week, where staff will assist students in catching up on their work.

Classroom Behaviour

We encourage a culture of academic aspiration among all our students. We want them to leave with qualifications that will enable them to reach their future goals. It is important that our classrooms facilitate this, and so we insist on disruption-free learning environments. We ask all students to remain focused, calm, and on task at all times during lessons; failure to do so may result in a same-day Reflection for impacting the learning of others. Some students with additional needs may require extra support, such as fidgets, to help them meet lesson expectations. Please note that only fidgets issued or authorised by our SENCO, Mrs. Travis, will be permitted in lessons.

Corridors

We have worked hard to create calm corridors to support our most vulnerable learners and ensure that our climate for learning is protected, especially as our numbers have grown. Students are expected to walk on the left, following their badge, towards their lessons. Transition music helps them arrive on time, and the expectation is that they are seated and ready to learn when it ends. To protect our learning environment, late students will not be allowed to enter the classroom and will receive a same-day Reflection.

Toilets

Students are permitted to use the toilets during social times and lesson changes. This provides six opportunities to visit the facilities throughout the school day when staff are on duty. If a child has a medical condition that requires more frequent toilet use, a pass will be issued upon presentation of medical evidence. Please see the Heads of Year for more information.



Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not permitted in the building for both behaviour and safeguarding reasons. We understand that students may carry mobile phones for safeguarding reasons, so we ask that these are switched off and kept in bags for the entire school day. If a student is seen using their phone on school premises, including outdoor spaces, it will be confiscated, and an adult will need to collect it.

Confectionery Restrictions

A growing number of students are bringing caffeinated or fizzy drinks to school. Both of these are banned on the Lowry site due to the impact that they have on behaviour and well-being. Chewing gum is also becoming more prevalent and will lead to a warning if found.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Heads of Year.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. N. Griffith
Assistant Principal – Pastoral

[Back to contents page](#)



Year 7 Settling in Evening

Dear Parent / Carer,

Our year 7 Settling in Evening is taking place on Thursday, 7th November from 4pm. This has been moved from the original date of 31st October.

Your child will be bringing home a letter on Monday 28th October containing details of how to book an appointment for the settling in evening.

Yours faithfully,

S Smith

Mrs S Smith
Transitions Coordinator

[Back to contents page](#)



Key Stage 3 Academic Reviews

Dear Parent Carer,

Over the next two weeks, all Key Stage 3 parents/carers will receive an invitation to attend their child's Academic Review.

This is replacing our 'traditional' Parents Evening events that have been held in previous years for our Key Stage 3 students.

Each Key Stage 3 student has been allocated an Academic Mentor who will conduct the review. The review will last for 20 minutes. During the meeting there will be an opportunity to discuss the student's progress in all of their subjects as well as reviewing their involvement and contributions in all other aspects of school life. By the end of the meeting parents/carers will be provided with a summary of 'next steps' that can be used to help support the student in the next phase of their educational journey.

The majority of the Academic Reviews will take place after school on either Thursday 13th February 2025 or Thursday 27th February 2025 at an allocated time. For some students, an alternative appointment has been made to incorporate feedback with another aspect of support that the student may be receiving eg EAL or SEND etc.

We are informing all Key Stage 3 parents/carers of their appointment now to provide everyone with sufficient notice to ensure, where required, arrangements can be made to allow parents/carers to attend their child's Academic Review along with their son/daughter.

Yours faithfully,

Sam Wells

Assistant Principal – Data, Assessments and Interventions

[Back to contents page](#)

Dear Parent / Carer,

The Local Offer is an online hub of information, all about special educational needs and disabilities. You might see this written as SEN or SEND. There is a directory of services offering information and advice, leisure activities and support to children and young people with SEND, and their families. The Local Offer is also a website of information to help families navigate their journey through the world of SEND, and offers drop-in sessions for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Please see the flyer below with details of drop-in sessions up to the end of the year.



Salford City Council



Local Offer drop in sessions

For parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), and young people with SEND (0-25 years)

- Tuesday 3 September 10.30am to 12pm
Broughton Hub
- Wednesday 11 September 10.30am to 12pm
Pendleton Gateway
- Thursday 3 October 1.30pm to 3pm
Swinton Gateway
- Tuesday 22 October 10.30am to 12pm
Walkden Gateway
- Thursday 14 November 10.30am to 12pm
Eccles Gateway
- Thursday 20 November 10.30am to 12pm
Irlam and Cadishead Family Hub
- Tuesday 26 November 1pm to 2.30pm
Little Hulton Family Hub
- Tuesday 10 December 1pm to 2.30pm
Winton Family Hub

 www.salford.gov.uk/localoffer

 localoffer@salford.gov.uk



[Back to contents page](#)

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
Friday 18th October	All Families	School closes for half-term at 3pm
Monday 21st – Friday 25th October	All Families	Half-Term
Monday 28th October	All Families	School re-opens, all students to be in school for normal registration time
Wednesday 30th October	Year 7 – 9	Key Stage 3 Halloween Disco
Friday 1st November	Year 7 Year 8 catch ups	Photographers in School
Monday 4th – Friday 22nd November	Year 11	Mock Exams
Thursday 7th November	Year 7	Settling in Evening
Monday 25th November	Year 8	Nurses in School – HPV catch ups
Thursday 5th December	Year 11	Parents Evening
Monday 9th December	All Families	Nurses in school – flu vaccination
Thursday 19th December	All Families	School closes for Christmas at 3pm

[Back to contents page](#)