



William Hulme's Grammar School

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Our Ref: KMH/Start_of_Year_Sep2023

Date: 4 September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

I look forward to welcoming all students back to WHGS on Wednesday. Please find some updates and information to help the transition back to school after the long summer break.

■ School day timings

- **Primary** – The Primary school day will run from 8.40am until 3.10pm.
- **Secondary** – The Secondary and Sixth Form school day will run from 8.30am until 3.10pm.

■ Attendance:

We are delighted that attendance improved throughout the school last year, but there is still room for further improvement. There is a strong link between pupil attendance and achievement, and it is imperative that pupils attend school as regularly as possible. Students are expected to aim for an attendance of 100% and currently we stand at just under 96% across the whole school. This is above the national average, but we want it to be even better in 2023-2024. More information is available on the website by following this [link](#).

■ Uniform:

The school website has clear details of what is expected under the section [Parent Info](#), Day to Day Matters and Uniform. Please remember that all students in Year 1 and Year 7 must be wearing the new blazer from Monkhouses. All other year groups will need to be wearing the new blazer by September 2024. From **Wednesday 6 September to Friday 8 September** your child does not need to wear a blazer to school due to the heatwave, but must follow all other expectations on uniform. From **Monday 11 September** all students will be expected to wear blazers to school each day when temperatures are set to fall to normal seasonal levels.

■ School dinners

We now have a new catering supplier – Taylor Shaw. Please find details of the menu across the school on our [website](#). Every endeavour has been made to minimise the cost of living increases. However, from the start of this term, the lunchtime main meal deal price will increase by 3p to £2.40. This still represents great value buying a student either a hot meal or a grab and go baguette/sandwich, along with a side dish and a pudding or fruit pot.

■ Parental engagement

At the start of this new school year, we wanted to remind you that all members of our school community are valued; more than anything your child, the learning of your child and the behaviour of your child, matters to each member of our staff. We do, however, need the help of parents/carers to work with the school to ensure that we are best placed to support your child. We care deeply about your child's safety, your child's education and we believe that all students at WHGS have the capacity for success. Our staff are prepared to work hard to make this happen and your child will flourish if they follow procedures and routines. WHGS is a thriving, caring and inclusive community and we value the vital encouragement of our parents/carers in promoting and supporting our school policies.

■ Behaviour

Students are expected to behave to the highest standards in school and in the wider community and to follow the school's Ambition, Compassion and Respect [Charters](#).

In the Primary Phase, if a pupil is persistently displaying low-level behaviours that disrupt the lesson, or fail to follow the school values, he or she will go through the behaviour card system. The breaks in the school day offer a reset for the card system, all individuals will return to Green for the start of the next period of learning.

If the behaviour persists, the child moves to red and loses 15 minutes of their next playtime which will be spent standing in a time out area on the playground. Where possible, parents will be informed verbally by the class teacher after school; if this is not possible, the teacher will inform the parents by telephone.

As in previous years, any pupil who repeatedly misbehaves in lessons in the Secondary Phase will be removed from lessons for 24 hours and work in the school's reflection room. Pupils remain in the reflection room until **3.30pm** if they are referred before 2.30pm. However, if a pupil is referred after 2.30pm they will remain in the reflection room until **3.30pm** on the next school day. Class teachers will conduct restorative meetings with pupils within 24 hours of the referral to the reflection room.

■ Detention – Secondary Phase ONLY

To promote further the highest standards of behaviour at the school, students will be issued a same day detention for the following reasons, and you will be notified by text message. The detentions will be supervised by members of the pastoral team and senior staff at the school.

- Incorrect uniform (e.g. no blazer, no shoes, no tie, shirt not tucked in or holding (not wearing) blazer)
- Unacceptable behaviour outside of lessons (e.g. shouting or running on corridors, arguing with staff)
- Failure to bring a planner to school each day
- Being late to morning registration
- Being late to lessons

■ Safeguarding

Safeguarding pupils in our care is of primary importance to us. If you have a safeguarding concern about a pupil in the school, in the first instance please contact the relevant staff or pastoral team as detailed below. The concern will be assessed immediately, and, if necessary, passed on to the safeguarding team.

■ Contacting the Primary Phase:

We are always here to help. Any queries or concerns should be addressed to the class teacher in the first instance. In addition, we have a number of staff on the school's leadership team and any issues arising can be raised with them. Their names and contact details are as follows:

Name	Position	Email address
Miss Dalton	Head of School	Leigh.dalton@whgs-academy.org
Mrs Emmott	Assistant Headteacher (currently on maternity leave)	Gemma.emmott@whgs-academy.org
Miss Ashworth	Assistant Headteacher	Rachel.ashworth@whgs-academy.org
Miss Fishwick	Assistant Headteacher	judith.fishwick@whgs-academy.org

■ **Contacting the Secondary Phase/Sixth Form:**

Our pastoral team supports your child throughout their time at our school. Any queries or concerns should be addressed to the form tutor in the first instance. In addition, each year group has its own Head of Year and any issues arising can be raised with them. Their names and contact details are as follows:

Year	Head of Year	Email address
7	Mr Lemord	Alexander.Lemord@whgs-academy.org
8	Miss Sewell	Olivia.Sewell@whgs-academy.org
9	Miss Bretherton	Milaina.Bretherton@whgs-academy.org
10	Mr Lindley	Richard.Lindley@whgs-academy.org
11	Mr Winster	Benjamin.Winster@whgs-academy.org
12	Mr Steinman	Luke.Steinman@whgs-academy.org
13	Mrs Hilton	Susanna.Hilton@whgs-academy.org

■ **Term Dates:**

Please find a reminder of the school [Term Dates for 2023-2024](#) to ensure you do not book any trips abroad or holidays during the next academic year.

Finally, I would like to express my delight in becoming the Principal at William Hulme’s Grammar School, the first woman Principal in its entire 140-year history! I will, as always, serve all families and the community to the best of my ability and look forward to seeing and talking to you all over the coming term.

Yours sincerely



K M Heaton
Principal