



Whalley Range 11-18 High School

Academy Headteacher: Mrs J. Fahey



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21st October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

End of Half Term 1

I hope that you and your families are well and would like to thank you for your ongoing support. I write to you as we reach the end of a busy first half term. Students finish today at 2:45pm and **return after the half term holiday on Monday 31st October.**

Our new Year 7 and Year 12 students have settled in well to life at Whalley Range. Year 7 have had some exciting experiences as part of their Induction Programme, with sessions on team building from the RAF and the Manchester United Foundation and it was lovely to be able to meet many of our families at the Year 7 Partnership Evening in September. Our Year 12 students had an exciting Induction Programme, meeting their new teachers and each other, as well as getting involved in a range of activities including learning Makaton.

On Thursday 22nd September, Whalley Range Sixth Form opened its doors to prospective Year 12 students hoping to study with us from next year. The Open Evening was bustling with students who came to find out all about the A Level and Vocational courses on offer at our Sixth Form and there was extra excitement at the prospect of our new T Level in Administration and Management that will be available for students from September 2023. Applications for admission in to Year 12 for September 2023 are now open and all Whalley Range Sixth Form students have been emailed personalised log in details and further information can be found here: <https://wrhs1118.co.uk/sixthform/how-to-apply-sixthform>. The deadline for Whalley Range Sixth Form applications is Friday 9th December.

We were also delighted to see so many prospective Year 7 students and their families at our Open Evening. The evening was a great success with our wonderful guides showing families around and answering questions about our school.

We have been able to make the most of being able to run our trips and visits again and students have been able to take part in a variety of activities including curriculum trips to Chester Zoo for Business Studies students, a trip to Warner Brothers for iMedia students and A Level English trips to see The Glass Menagerie, and a trip to the Bronte Museum. Our Year 11 Geography students spent the day at Crowden preparing for their GCSE coursework and some of our Sixth Form students completed their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. We are delighted to have been awarded Gold status for the School Games kitemark for our commitment to running events and participating in a large range of sports.

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The first round of our Year 11 Intervention programme finishes at the end of this half term with students making the most of the additional support on offer to make sure that they attain the best results possible.

We are very proud that two of our students have successfully completed their auditions and are now part of The Royal Exchange Theatre's Young Company and, that two of our ex-Year 11 students were able to get through to the finals of the Manchester United RISE Challenge.

Leadership remains a very important aspect of our school and our new Student Senior Leadership Team have now been appointed and are hard at work liaising with students and staff.

Students at Whalley Range have started the year well with their reading. All students have had the opportunity to select books to read for pleasure (with every student in years 7-9 receiving a book to read themselves at home and in school) and students have responded well to the reading expectations for their different subjects.

However, the more you can support your daughter at home with her reading, the more likely it is that her reading will improve. Strong readers are more likely to perform better in exams and are more likely to be happier, with improved wellbeing. Please support your daughter's reading by allowing her to read for at least 30 minutes every day and ask her about the book that she is reading.

If your daughter is unable to walk to and from school, or access school via public transport, please can we remind you to park a few streets away from school and ask your daughter to walk to you or perhaps you could walk to meet her. As well as being good for health and well-being, this also makes the roads around our school safer.

After the half term break, students in years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12 will be undertaking assessments. Year 11 pre-public examinations (PPEs) will start week commencing 28th November. You and your daughter will find some very useful information about how to prepare for these assessments and examinations on our school website.

Should you wish to contact your daughter's year office, please find below the contact details:-

	Head of Year	Year Co-ordinator	SLT Link
Year 7 0161 860 2976	Miss Costello	Mr H Mustafa	Mr Mycock
Year 8 0161 860 2975	Mrs Saleem	Miss Kanor	Ms Zarar
Year 9 0161 860 2978	Miss Culkin-Smith	Mr Ellis-Scott	Mrs Barnes
Year 10 0161 860 2979	Mrs Collings	Miss Ennis	Mr Parker
Year 11 0161 860 2977	Mrs Witt	Mrs Mackenzie	Mr Lea

Sixth Form 0161 860 2984	Mrs Z Davies (Head of Year 12) Mrs Maloney-Rock (Head of Year 13)	Miss Smith (Sixth Form Admin/Pastoral Support)	Mr Atkinson
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I hope that you have a restful half term break and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes

Mrs J Fahey
Academy Headteacher