



Whalley Range 11-18 High School

Academy Headteacher: Mrs J. Fahey



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Monday 19 December 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

Christmas Break – December 2022

Our students finish for the Christmas break at 1.15 pm, on **Wednesday 21st December 2022**. We return to school on **Monday 9th January 2023**.

I hope that you and your family are well, and I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks as ever to parents, carers, students and staff for their ongoing support of our school. We are proud that our students are working hard and making progress in their learning. As always, we are keen to gather your views and I would ask if you have a moment to complete his quick form to share your views <https://forms.office.com/e/sUC3Jk9QXa>

Our students and staff have been working hard to fundraise for a range of charities this term and we have raised money for two local food banks and the Wood Street Mission.

This term our students have engaged with Personal Development curriculum activities including our fantastic Personal Development Day on Tuesday 22nd November where external visitors and inspirational speakers delivered different valuable sessions to our young people. One of the many highlights included a mini first aid course for our year 8 students and a fascinating DJ set for our year 9 students to demonstrate an aspect of expressive arts. Attendance at our extra-curricular activities has really increased and as well as our established clubs, a range of new clubs are now available including chess club, jewellery club and Beauty Hub. The excitement has been tangible with some clubs oversubscribed and operating waiting lists!

Our students have also been able to take part in a wide range of curricular visits including to Salford Quays to study the geography of the local area, a trip to the Lowry Theatre, Sheffield Manor for GCSE history students and conferences for Health and Social students.

We have also provided a range of reward trips for students including a trip to the pantomime in Blackpool and to a local ice-skating trip as well as a trip to Cineworld.

It has been lovely to see our parents and carers back in school at the range of events that we have held including our parent/carer evenings and our recent Winter Concert.

Reading and reading for pleasure have continued to go from strength to strength this term. A focus on reading development in classrooms has meant that students have been progressing in the development of their reading skills. It is vital that your daughter continues with this fantastic reading development over the holidays. Please don't hesitate to email Mr Parker should you have any questions about your daughter's reading.

We continue to be very concerned about traffic safety and pollution outside school at the start and the end of the day and we would like all parents/carers to help us with this issue. Please encourage your daughter to walk to school if you live nearby. If you do drop off your daughter by car, please park well away from school and be very mindful of our neighbours and pedestrians, as we continue to receive complaints about dangerous parking and driving. Please also note that traffic enforcement officers are now regularly in attendance outside school.

If you would like to speak to someone about your child's progress, personal development or have any concerns, please contact the relevant Year Office on one of the numbers given below:

	Head of Year	Year Co-ordinator	SLT Link
Year 7 0161 860 2976	Miss Costello	Mr Mustafa	Mr Parker
Year 8 0161 860 2975	Mrs Saleem	Miss Kanor	Ms Zarar
Year 9 0161 860 2978	Mr Da Silva	Mr Ellis-Scott	Mrs Barnes
Year 10 0161 860 2979	Mrs Collings	Miss Ennis/Ms Carr	Mrs Plews
Year 11 0161 860 2977	Mrs Witt	Mrs Mackenzie/Ms Carr	Mr Lea
Sixth Form 0161 860 2984	Mrs Davies (Head of Year 12) Mrs Maloney-Rock (Head of Year 13)	Miss Smith (Sixth Form Admin/Pastoral Support)	Mr Mycock

Can I please encourage all parents and carers to ensure that we have an up-to-date e-mail address and that this, and your other contact details are updated if or when they are changed. We now send out all correspondence to parents/carers via e-mail. If, however, we do not have an e-mail address, correspondence will continue to be sent via text, student post or Royal Mail.

As 2022 comes to a close, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to colleagues who are leaving us to take on roles in new schools. We say goodbye to Miss Ali, Mr Atkinson, Miss Culkin-Smith, Mrs Hutchinson and Miss Wilkinson. We wish them all the very best and thank them for the support shown to our Whalley Range family and community.

I would like to thank you again for your continued support and I hope that you and your family enjoy the winter break.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Fahey
Academy Headteacher