



Whalley Range 11-18 High School

Academy Headteacher: Mrs E. Hole Executive Headteacher: Ms P. Kane M.A.



Whalley Range 11-18 High School, Wilbraham Road, Whalley Range, Manchester, M16 8GW
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17th July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

END OF SCHOOL YEAR – JULY 2019

We are coming to the end of another successful year, and I would like to thank all the students for the contribution they have made to the school. The staff work extremely hard to ensure our students have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of experiences and I hope you enjoy reading about them in our latest Partnership News. The celebration events for all students who have graduated in years 7, 8 and 9 showed the commitment and dedication of the students and the sports presentation evening demonstrated the wealth of talent we have in the school. I would like to thank parents for all their support during the year.

The school term will finish on Friday 19th July at 1.00pm.

Students will be permitted to wear their own clothes on the last day with a contribution of £1.00, which will go to The Wood Street Mission. If students do not wish to contribute to this charity, then school uniform should be worn. Please ensure that your daughter attends school as usual, as this is an official school day and she will only receive a mark if she is in school. Any absence will be recorded as unauthorised. As you are aware, Whalley Range 11-18 High School takes your daughter's education very seriously and it is vital that she attends every day.

All students are back after the summer holiday on Wednesday 4th September 2019:

8.30am	Year 7 to the dining room for breakfast with Learning Coaches
8.30am	Year 13 to go to form rooms
10.00am	Year 10 to the hall (via quads) for Assembly
10.00am	Year 12 to the Bistro for a welcome by Mrs Lomax, Head of Sixth Form
11.20am	Years 8 and 9 to form rooms
11.30am	Year 11 to the hall (via quads) for Assembly

Ensure a smart start by your daughter being organised with correct uniform and equipment for the day. From Thursday 5th September, your daughter needs to arrive on time to be in her form room for 8.30am.

Parents/carers are strongly advised to avoid taking their daughter(s) out of school during term time as this will seriously affect her attendance. However, leave of absence in any one school year MAY be granted at the discretion of the Headteacher under exceptional circumstances.

If the Headteacher refuses the request and the parent/carers chooses to take their daughter(s) out of school without permission, the local authority may issue a penalty notice to parents/carers.

School Website

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage parents/carers to utilise the parents and carers area of the school website which can be accessed via the following link www.wrhs1118.co.uk/parents. Here you will find everything you need to know including the latest letters, policies, term dates and important information about e-safety. I would encourage all parents/carers to look at this regularly to keep up-to-date with everything that is happening at school.

VLE

Your daughter will be able to keep learning throughout the summer by logging onto the school Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) either from home or from a local library. We are very fortunate to live in Manchester with many wonderful things to do right on our doorstep. The local library, and our school website, will also have information on lots of free festivals and events happening in Manchester over the summer.

Free School Meals

If you think that your daughter is entitled to Free School Meals but is not currently receiving them, then you need to complete an online application. The application form can be found on the school website at this address <http://www.wrhs1118.co.uk/parents/free-school-meals>. If you are having any difficulties with this, please contact Student Services and they will be able to assist you. It is important that this is completed as soon as possible to ensure that it is in place for September.

Staying Safe

The school wishes to work with parents and carers to keep their children safe over the summer holiday. Please visit the Parents/Carers Section of our website for advice and guidance. Parents and carers who are intending to travel abroad in the holidays are strongly advised to check information on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office website. There is a link from the Parents/Carers Section of our website.

Health and Wellbeing

At Whalley Range 11-18 High School, we always try to promote our students' emotional and physical health and wellbeing. As such, we request that students do not bring crisps, sweets and chocolate into school and would appreciate your support in enforcing this and to help the students to make healthy choices.

Reading

The overwhelming importance of reading and the impact that it can have on the life chances of all our young women can never be overstated. That is why reading has continued to be a high priority for all members of staff and students this year. This has then been demonstrated in the incredible reading age progress made by our students where, for example, our current Year 7s have, on average, a reading age which is 10 months above their chronological age.

However, it is crucial that all of the fantastic enthusiasm and enjoyment that our students have shown for reading over the last year is not lost over the summer holidays and that they have the opportunity to read as often as possible so that they come back in September with the same drive and passion for reading that so many of them have demonstrated this year. As parents, there are lots of things that you can do to support your daughter's enjoyment of reading, including:

- Encouraging your daughter to read a book for pleasure (this can be fiction or non-fiction)
- Persuading your daughter to take part in the 'Whalley Range Summer Reading Challenge'
- Modelling reading to your daughter, or taking her to a library so that she can choose her own book to read

- Reading a story which you have enjoyed out loud to your daughter
- Encouraging your daughter to read aloud to you
- Encourage your daughter to create storyboards or reviews of books that she has enjoyed

Just setting aside 30 minutes each day for your daughter to read for pleasure could have a dramatic impact on her enjoyment of reading and her literacy skills. Thank you for all the support you have provided school and your daughter with reading this year.

Road Safety – parking

Please could I once again ask all parents/carers to put safety first and park and drive safely at all times near school. It would be much appreciated if you could avoid dropping your daughter off on the main road outside of school. There have been many instances of dangerous driving at the front of school which puts students at risk of being involved in an accident.

Uniform

Please remember when arranging uniform for September, that if students choose to wear school trousers, **these must be loose fitting and not jeans, leggings or jeggings**. If students choose to wear a skirt, this should be a **maximum of 2” above the knee and 4” below the knee** and should be of school uniform style and **not be a “tube” skirt**. Students violating this rule will be given replacement uniform to wear for the day. Students should be wearing a school tie, which for Year 8 should have a white stripe across it. These can be purchased through The Shop on the school website if a replacement is needed.

We would like to remind you that the only jewellery that can be worn is a watch. Students should not wear any piercings or retainers and will be expected to remove these if they are worn. Please consider this should your daughter be having a piercing over the summer holidays. Furthermore, students should not wear hair that is of an extreme style or colour.

I am enclosing the Term Dates for 2019-2020 and Key Contact Information.

May I thank you for your continued support during the year. I wish you and your daughter a safe and enjoyable holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Hole
Academy Headteacher

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Links to school sites:

Twitter: www.twitter.com/wrhs1118
YouTube: www.youtube.com/wrhs1118
Flickr: www.flickr.com/wrhs1118

Term dates for the Academic Year September 2019 - July 2020

Autumn Term

Teacher Training Day: Monday 2 September 2019 – **closed to students**
Teacher Training Day: Tuesday 3 September 2019 – **closed to students**
Term starts: Wednesday 4 September 2019
Half term holiday: Monday 28 October 2019 – Friday 1 November 2019
Teacher Training Day: Friday 29 November 2019 – **closed to students**
Term ends: Friday 20 December 2019
Christmas holiday: Monday 23 December 2019 – Friday 3 January 2020

Spring Term

Term starts: Monday 6 January 2020
Half term holiday: Monday 17 February 2020 – Friday 21 February 2020
Term ends: Friday 3 April 2020
Easter break: Monday 6 April 2020 – Friday 17 April 2020

Summer Term

Term starts: Monday 20 April 2020
May Day holiday: Monday 4 May 2020
Teacher Training Day: Friday 22 May 2020 – **closed to students** **Year 11 students to attend any scheduled GCSE exams**
Half term holiday: Monday 25 May 2020 – Friday 29 May 2020
Term ends: Friday 17 July 2020
Teacher Training Days: Monday 20 July 2020 – **closed to students**

Public Holidays

Christmas Day – Wednesday 25 December 2019
Boxing Day – Thursday 26 December 2019
New Year's Day – Wednesday 1 January 2020
Good Friday – Friday 10 April 2020
Easter Monday – Monday 13 April 2020
May Day – Monday 4 May 2020
Spring Bank Holiday – Monday 25 May 2020

Leave of absence in Term Time

If your daughter has time off before or after any school holiday, her absence will be classed as Unauthorised Absence and the Local Authority may issue a penalty notice. (You should also be aware that if her absence exceeds 20 days, her name may be removed from our register).

Any leave of absence in term time must be applied for at least 10 days in advance. Official forms for this purpose are obtainable from Student Services. I would also advise you that any Unauthorised Leave taken during term time may incur a penalty fine from the Local Authority. The fine will be £120 per parent per child reduced to £60 per parent per child if paid with 21 days.

Key Contact Information

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

Angelou House (Phone 0161 860 2975)

Head of House – Miss Bakare
House Co-ordinator – Mr Ellis-Scott
House Admin – Mrs Luker

Franklin House (0161 860 2977)

Head of House – Mrs Witt
House Co-ordinator – Mr H Mustafa
House Admin – Miss Rani

Germain House (0161 860 2978)

Head of House – Miss Bevan
House Co-ordinator – Mrs Mackenzie
House Admin – Mrs Hannan

Hepburn House (0161 860 2976)

Head of House – Mr B Mustafa
House Co-ordinator – Miss Burrows
House Admin – Mrs Booth

Parks House (0161 860 2979)

Head of House – Miss Costello
House Co-ordinator – Mrs Osikoya
House Admin – Ms Fell

Sixth Form (0161 860 2984)

Head of Year 12 – Mrs Davies
Assistant Head of Year 12 – Miss Oliver
Head of Year 13 – Mrs Maloney-Rock
Sixth Form Admin – Mrs Khaliq