



**The Hyndburn Academy**

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning



## Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers,

Although we are in the middle of a unique situation with the COVID lockdown, we are busy behind the scenes planning for when we can finally welcome all our students back into the Academy. It has been great to welcome some of our Year 10 students back to school over the past couple of weeks.

Our staff are working hard continuing live lessons, form times and assemblies via Microsoft Teams, and trying to keep you entertained with challenges and staff videos via our social media platforms. Our pastoral staff are contacting students and ensuring they receive any support they may require. Did you know we have a [student hub](#) on our website with lots of online [wellbeing resources](#). Please get in touch using the information in your [staying in touch guide](#) if you need any help or support.

It was also lovely to see so many students, parents and carers logged on to our virtual leaver's assembly for our Year 11's earlier in the month and we have made a great start to national sports week. We have been approached by the BBC for some media coverage, so please send us your pictures or video of your children getting involved!

Throughout this newsletter I will be updating you with regards to a few changes we have planned for September to support our continued drive to excellence in all areas of the Academy.

The changes detailed in this newsletter are:

- Page 2 – Changes to the Academy Day and the House System
- Page 3 – Changes to Academy Uniform
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Take care, stay safe.

Miss N Palmer

### Get Social Follow Us!



# The Academy Day

The Academy day was changed several years ago when the school joined United Learning and was in a close collaboration with Accrington Academy. The coverage of the curriculum at that point included some shared staffing with Accrington therefore we had to mirror their school day. This included the 2-week timetable, split lunchtimes, different timings on Monday's to allow an early finish on a Monday for staff training.

We have worked hard during the last year to become self-sufficient whilst extending our curriculum offer therefore, we can now control our own timings of the school day.

We are therefore moving to a 1-week timetable, one lunch time for all, and the correct amount of curriculum time for subjects by moving to a 6-period day of 50-minute lessons. The longer lunchtime will allow students to be involved in lunchtime activities. We can where it is advantageous create double lessons to allow subjects to have more teaching time in one block, so that the learning experience is vastly improved.

## Outline of the New School Day

8.35am	Arrive at school
8.40am	Registration
8.55am	DEAR – Drop Everything and Read
9.15am	Period 1
10.05am	Period 2
10.55am	Break Time
11.10am	Period 3
12.00pm	Lesson 4
12.50pm	Lunch Time
1.30pm	Period 5
2.20pm	Period 6
3.10pm	End of Main School Day
3.10pm	Enrichment Activities Intervention Sessions Consequences (Detentions)



## The House System

The Hyndburn Academy will be relaunching the house system in September. The house system aims to challenge and stimulate competition amongst students. Throughout the year, each house will compete in a series of subject based challenges that helps bring all years together under one specific house. The focus is always on the positives element of competition and is designed to help integrate different year groups and different backgrounds. Rewards throughout the year are linked into each house so it is all about individual and collective responsibility.

We will be relaunching our House system with new names and a slight tweak to the colours of the houses. At the moment one of our present houses has purple (Waddington) as its identifying colour. This has always presented a problem because whenever we buy anything bespoke for the houses, we have to have it custom prepared at a greater cost to the school. We will therefore replace purple with yellow in September as part of the rebrand.

Many of the students have expressed a wish this year to explore changing the names of the Houses so that we can incorporate the history of the houses into the development of their identity.

We want to involve all the Academy community in deciding on the new names moving forward.

## Changes to Uniform

I have been canvassing with students for most of this year regarding our Academy uniform which has too many elements to it at a greater cost to parents.

Therefore, due to the change of house colour it was an opportune time to make a few subtle changes to the Academy uniform. We are proposing all students will wear a lapel badge on their blazers to signify which house they belong to and have a generic school tie. I would like all students to wear the new school tie therefore I will be issuing the tie for free to **all present** students at the school. Year 11 will wear a different tie from the rest of the Academy to signify their status of being in Year 11 and again I will be issuing these free of charge.

Our new incoming Year7 students who choose to wear a skirt will be expected to wear the new 20-inch stitched down logo skirt which will become a compulsory part of the uniform. The new skirt will be much smarter due to it discouraging the rolling of skirts. Current students in the should move to the new skirt when it is time to replace their present skirt.

We will be removing the school jumper and blue shirts from the uniform list so **all students** will wear **white shirts**, not just Year 11.

The Academy PE kit and all other elements of the uniform will stay the same, therefore the changes other than the buying of white shirts over the summer holidays will be of no extra cost to our present student body and the total cost of the uniform for our new Yr7's will be reduced.

## Uniform Suppliers

### [Whittakers School Wear at Oswaldtwistle Mills](#)

### [Abbey Street Shopping Centre](#)

#### ***Abbey Street Shopping Centre New Year 7 School Offer***

£5.00 off when you buy any Embroidered School Blazer

Spend £40 or more on School Uniform excluding Blazer and you receive 25 Nametapes for free worth £5.99

Spend £65 or more on School Uniform excluding Blazer, you receive 10% off Optimum Trainers (cannot be exchanged with any other item) 25 Nametapes for Free worth £5.99

To obtain the offer please mention code

“New Year 7 Offer”

Offer is valid until 8th August 2020.

[Click here to view our full uniform list](#)



## Click the image below to view the Leavers Assembly



The Hyndburn Academy recently hosted a special celebration via Microsoft Teams for Year 11 students who will be leaving at the end of the academic year. The virtual celebration was an opportunity to mark the achievements of the year group over the past five years.

Despite the current COVID-19 restrictions preventing most of the students from coming into school, their teachers nevertheless wanted to make the celebrations as memorable as possible. Staff quite literally went the extra mile – hand-delivering cupcakes and commemorative photos of the whole year group to each of the students.

There were many surprised but smiling faces at the doorstep as students and their families discovered their 'leaving' gifts. The additional effort from staff made all the difference in helping to commemorate five successful years of education, whilst also providing an opportunity for students to share what they had most enjoyed, learnt and cherished from their time at The Hyndburn Academy. Amidst the significant challenges we have all faced over the past few months, we are deeply conscious of the impact on our Year 11s, who are now preparing to finish their secondary schooling under very different circumstances than any of us would have expected. We wanted to make sure they got the chance to celebrate their fantastic achievements from Year 7 to now and to mark the occasion properly as a year group, albeit virtually.

Having worked so hard, it is obviously a disappointment that their public examinations have been cancelled nationally. Despite this news, however, we are extremely proud of how hard our students continued to work to sustain their learning from home during lockdown. With every Year 11 cohort, we always want to prepare each young person to take their next steps in life with confidence – whether that is at Sixth Form, an apprenticeship, or another form of training. This year in particular, we are determined that every student has the continuing support of our school community for as long as they may need it. We look forward to a positive end to the academic year and seeing these Year 11s thrive in the next stage of their lives

# DEAR - Drop Everything and Read

We know that reading is good for you. However, helping students to cultivate a love for reading is easier said than done. Teaching a child to read is great. Helping a child to develop a love for reading is even better, because he/ she will more than likely pass that love for reading, on to their own children one day.

It is very well documented that students' reading habits are changing. Some may even argue that students are not reading less; they are just reading differently. For example, people are exchanging the traditional books for electronic books. But as teachers, we have observed that many students lack the ability to carry out sustained reading and we have the mandate of helping them to be able to do so.

Students were just not doing enough reading whether for pleasure or information and we know that this will have a direct impact on their GCSE's and life in general where a good level of reading is required. The reasons were many; not being able to choose books at their correct reading levels, not finding things they were interested in or simply not making the time to read.

This is why I am introducing DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) time into our timetable each day. We have seen some amazing results across United Learning when it has been introduced. Below are some of the benefits seen when a school wide DEAR was introduced every day in the morning.

## **A Less stressful start to the day**

DEAR time is an extension of form time every morning. It made the start to the day so much calmer. Students and teachers read a half termly set text together rotating every half term. Once embedded, by term two when it became a natural routine, those were some of the calmest starts to the school days we experienced.

## **Increased knowledge**

It is said that everything you read fills your head with new bits of information, and you never know when it might come in handy. We have chosen the set texts carefully to engage learners and stretch students to read about topics that they may never explore otherwise. Students often reported learning something new each time they had DEAR time. These were not always what we could describe as big things, but it added to the body of knowledge they were developing over the year.

## **Vocabulary expansion**

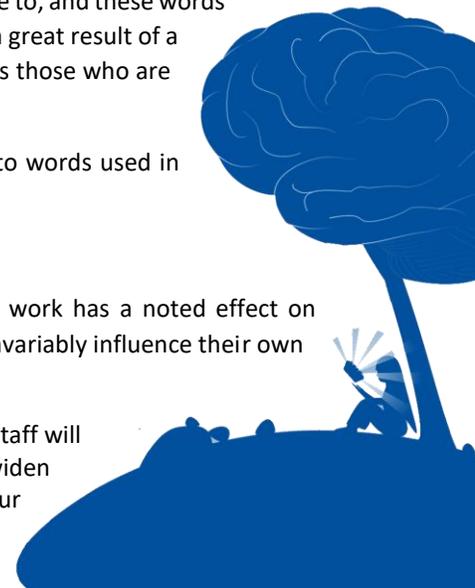
This goes with the above benefit: the more the students read, the more words they gained exposure to, and these words will inevitably make their way into their everyday vocabulary. Being articulate and well-spoken is a great result of a reading programme that any teacher would be proud of. It could even aid in their future career, as those who are well-read, well-spoken, and knowledgeable on a variety of topics tend to do better career wise.

Reading books is also vital for second language learners, as non-native speakers gain exposure to words used in context, which will ameliorate their own speaking and writing fluency.

## **Better writing skills**

This goes hand-in-hand with the expansion of vocabulary: exposure to published, well-written work has a noted effect on student's own writing, as observing the cadence, fluidity, and writing styles of other authors will invariably influence their own writing.

We will be incorporating DEAR into our House system, rewards, and achievement structures. All staff will have undertaken special training on how to deliver DEAR. As we roll out the structure, this will widen into extra-curricular activities, homework tasks and how we push reading to be at the centre of our Academy development alongside numeracy development



# Year 6 Transition Update

[Click here to complete our online secure Data Collection Forms](#)

We will be sending all parents/carers our 'Transition Handbook' soon!

This handbook details everything you need to know about The Hyndburn Academy including uniform and equipment lists.

It has been great to see so many Year 6 students getting involved in the Year 6 Challenges. If your child has taken part, we would love to see your video or pictures! Email: [zoe.hinchliffe@hyndburnacademy.org](mailto:zoe.hinchliffe@hyndburnacademy.org)

Please keep checking our website for further challenges, updates, and information. If you have missed any of the challenges, they can be viewed clicking the images below:

## Challenge 1 – Welcome



## Challenge 2 – Science



## Challenge 3 - English



## Challenge 4 – Sports Week



## Staff warm up



## #SpeedBounceSaturday



## #SockSunday



## #MileMonday



## #ToneUpTuesday



# Year 10 Return

On Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June we were delighted to welcome back some of our Year 10 students for face to face learning.

We would like to say a huge well done and thank you to all our students; they showed great maturity adhering to the social distancing rules and were eager to learn. A reminder that if students are travelling to school via public transport it is compulsory to wear a face mask.

Students are assigned to a 'Pod' and stay within this designated Pod during their time in school. Each Pod has their own designated entrance/exit, social space, classroom, and toilets.

For more information on our Pod System, please take a look at our [Pod Guide](#) and [Pod Video](#).

**WELCOME BACK**  
we have missed you



# Remote Learning Stars

Throughout lockdown we have celebrated our 'Remote Learning Stars' during our virtual assemblies, social media and doorstep drops of certificates and treats.



**REMOTE  
LEARNING  
STARS**

