

TRANSITION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 - SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome to the Fulwood Academy newsletter dedicated to supporting the transition of the Class of 2031!

A MESSAGE FROM MRS HOLMES

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of our formal Year 7 transition programme, I wanted to take the opportunity to say what a genuine pleasure it has been getting to know our new Year 7 students and their families. From our first communications before the summer, through transition events and visits, to welcoming the students through the doors in September, it has been wonderful to see them begin to find their feet, build new friendships and become part of the Fulwood Academy community.

Although this marks the end of the formal transition period, my involvement with Year 7 certainly does not end here. I will continue to work closely with the year group and will remain a familiar face for students and families throughout their time at Fulwood. Alongside our Year 7 pastoral team, I will continue to be there to support, encourage and challenge them as they move forward.

Thank you for the trust you have placed in us during what is such a significant change for children and their families, and for the support you have given throughout the transition process.

Most importantly, well done to our Year 7 students. Starting secondary school is a big step, and I am incredibly proud of the way they have approached these first few weeks.

The transition programme may be finishing, but their Fulwood journey is only just beginning.

Mrs Holmes

Associate Assistant Principal
Transition Lead



CLASS CHARTS

All Year 7 students have now been given a copy of their student Class Charts login details, along with parent/carer login information to bring home.

Class Charts is an important way for you to keep up to date with your child's school life, including their behaviour, rewards, homework and other key information.

If you require another copy of your login details, please contact Mr Beesley, who will be happy to provide these for you.

For help getting started, please use the Parent Quick Start Guide linked below.



[Parent Quick Start](#)
[Guide for Class](#)
[Charts](#)



FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Following changes to Free School Meal eligibility over the summer, we would encourage any parents or carers who believe their child may now be entitled to Free School Meals to apply as soon as possible.

If you receive confirmation of eligibility from Lancashire County Council, please forward your confirmation letter to info@fulwoodacademy.co.uk so that we can update your child's account.

Students entitled to Free School Meals receive an **allowance of £2.75 per school day**.

This can be used at lunchtime for one of our meal deals:

- Main food option + small drink + cake, or
- Main food option + large drink.

The Free School Meal allowance is for lunchtime only and cannot be used at break time. Parents and carers are welcome to add additional funds to their child's account if they would like them to be able to purchase food at break time or buy additional items alongside their lunch.



HOMework

Homework is an important part of learning at Fulwood Academy. It gives pupils the opportunity to practise and consolidate learning from lessons, build strong independent study habits and prepare for future learning and assessments.

Below is a summary of the homework your child will receive in each subject, including how often it will be set, how to access it and when it is due.

You can support your child by checking Class Charts regularly, helping them establish a homework routine and encouraging them to complete work by the deadlines.



Maths

What will pupils do?

- A weekly task on Sparx Maths to consolidate learning and pre-learn upcoming topics.

When?

- Set Monday to Monday (first homework set 12th September, due 19th September).

How to access?

- Use the same login as school.

Extra support:

- Monday after-school catch-up session available for extra support.
- Before Assessment Points (APs), pupils will also receive a paper revision booklet.



Questions about Maths homework?
f.hajarie@fulwoodacademy.co.uk



English

What will pupils do?

- Achieve 300 Sparx Reader Points (SRP) each week and complete either spellings or a Knowledge Organiser retrieval quiz (depending on the week).

Important information:

- Pupils will complete an initial reading test in class so Sparx Reader can provide reading at an appropriate level.
- Read carefully – guessing answers makes it harder to achieve the required points.

Week A

- 300 SRP
- Learn set spellings for a spelling test.

Week B

- 300 SRP
- Prepare for a Knowledge Organiser retrieval quiz.

Pupils will receive paper copies of spellings and Knowledge Organiser in lessons.

Check **Class Charts** for the date of the spelling or retrieval quiz each week.



Questions about English homework?
c.addison@fulwoodacademy.co.uk

HOMework



Science

What will pupils do?

- A weekly Sparx Science quiz linked to the curriculum studied in lessons.
- Sparx Science assesses understanding and adapts/scaffolds content appropriately.

When?

- Due every Wednesday.

How to access?

- Use the same login as school.



Questions about Science homework?
r.jones@fulwoodacademy.co.uk



Religious Studies (RS)

What will pupils do?

- Receive a Knowledge Organiser with key knowledge to learn.
- Every two weeks, learn specific sections using:

Look → Cover → Write → Check

Assessment:

- Fortnightly test in the final RS lesson of Week B.
- Individual target percentage, linked to end-of-year target, to determine if they have passed.
- Most tests will be out of 10.
- At the end of a topic, a larger test based on the whole Knowledge Organiser (out of 25) including five spellings.



Questions about RS homework?
r.close@fulwoodacademy.co.uk



History

What will pupils do?

- Receive a paper Knowledge Organiser at the start of each half term.
- **Every fortnight**, complete a written homework task to build knowledge across the half term.

Where will we find the task?

- Set and due dates will be shown on Class Charts.

At the end of the half term:

- Pupils will complete an online **Carousel** test, followed by a written task in class.

Accessing Carousel:

1. Open the link (on Class Charts).
2. Enter full name exactly as on the school register.
3. Begin the task (no password required).



Questions about History homework?
m.plant@fulwoodacademy.co.uk



Geography

What will pupils do?

- Receive a paper Knowledge Organiser at the start of each half term.
- **Every fortnight**, complete a knowledge-recall quiz using Seneca.

When?

- Set on Thursday of Week B, due by Thursday of the following Week B.

How to complete the quiz:

1. Attempt each question from memory first.
 2. Use your Knowledge Organiser for support when needed.
 3. Attempt all questions before the deadline.
- Teachers will monitor completion and results to identify and address gaps in knowledge.

How to access Seneca:

Use the Seneca link on Class Charts, select the Microsoft login icon, enter school email and password, then open the assignment.



Questions about Geography homework?
c.morrison@fulwoodacademy.co.uk

HOMework



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

What will pupils do?

- Receive a Knowledge Organiser and homework booklet containing the spellings to learn.
- Use the booklet to practise spellings:

Look → Cover → Say → Write → Check

- Spelling tests completed in a separate Spelling Check Booklet in lessons, so pupils can track their progress.

Optional online practice:

- Use Quizlet to practise set spellings.
- Quizlet is optional – not expected if pupils do not have access to a suitable device or internet connection.



Questions about MFL homework?

k.smerdon@fulwoodacademy.co.uk



Supporting Your Child With Homework

- ✓ Check Class Charts regularly with your child.
- ✓ Encourage them to complete homework before the deadline.
- ✓ Help them find a quiet place and regular time for homework.
- ✓ Encourage them to use their Knowledge Organisers.
- ✓ Ask them to explain what they have learned – teaching someone else is a great way to remember it.
- ✓ Encourage them to speak to their teacher before the deadline if they are unsure or having difficulty accessing a task.



Helping pupils become independent

At first, your child may need support remembering different deadlines and platforms. This is normal when moving to secondary school. By establishing good routines early in Year 7, pupils can develop habits that will support them throughout their time at Fulwood Academy.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Detailed information about the curriculum your child will study at Fulwood Academy is available on our school website. This includes subject information, learning journeys, skills journeys and home learning information.

We encourage parents and carers to explore this information so that you are aware of what your child is studying and can support conversations about their learning at home.

Year 7 pupils will complete three formal assessment points across the academic year, allowing us to monitor their progress and identify where further support or challenge may be needed.

Curriculum information can be found here: [<<Click Here for Curriculum Information>>](#)

TIMETABLES AND LEARNING GROUPS

Following the completion of our Transition Programme, Year 7 students have now received their full academic timetables and have begun their normal programme of learning.

In some subjects, students may be placed into learning groups designed to ensure that teaching, challenge and support are appropriate to their current level of attainment. These groups are not fixed for the year. We review assessment information throughout the year and may make changes where we believe a different group would better support a student's progress.

We appreciate that pupils can sometimes place a great deal of importance on which group they are in. We would encourage parents and carers to reassure them that being placed in a particular group does not limit their potential or what they can achieve. All students follow an appropriately ambitious curriculum and receive high-quality teaching, with the expectation that every pupil works hard and makes strong progress.

Where changes to learning groups are appropriate following assessment points, these will be made based on the needs and progress of individual students.



COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

Who Should I Contact?

Safeguarding Concerns

Miss Walker (Designated Safeguarding Lead) b.walker@fulwoodacademy.co.uk

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Mrs Clipston (SENCO) h.clipston@fulwoodacademy.co.uk

Academic Queries

For subject-specific questions, please contact your child's class teacher directly. The easiest way to do this is by email. Due to teaching commitments we aim for all queries to be responded to within 48 working hours where possible. Please be aware that as some of our teaching team are part time and this may affect response times.

Class Charts can support you in identifying the email address of each of your child's teachers.

If you view your child's timetable on the platform, you will see that it shows you the class information and the teacher of the class as shown here -

7x/Pe4 (Physical E)
Mr L Johnson | SH

Staff email addresses follow a set format: For example, for Mr L Johnson, the email address would be: **l.johnson@fulwoodacademy.co.uk**

Attendance

To report an absence please call 01772 719060 on each morning of your child's absence. To report a planned absence such as unavoidable medical appointment you can also **email: attendance@fulwoodacademy.co.uk**

Pastoral Support

For general pastoral concerns, please contact your child's Form Tutor in the first instance

If further support is required, please contact Mr Beesley (Head of Year 7) at m.beesley@fulwoodacademy.co.uk.



During their second week at Fulwood Academy, half of our Year 7 students had the opportunity to visit Brockholes Nature Reserve as part of their first Year 7 trip. The visit was a great success and students thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The day involved hunting for creatures in the woods and meadows. The students studied insects such as daddy long legs and beetles. One group even managed to catch a frog. There was also birdwatching where they observed swans and herons amongst others. Finally, they all went pond dipping and used charts to identify different invertebrates. A newt was the biggest highlight from the pond dipping.



The planned visit for the second half of the year group is now scheduled for the Spring Term to accommodate the size of the group, these are circumstances beyond our control.

All Year 7 students will still have the opportunity to take part in this experience this academic year. We are working with the venue and our transport provider to arrange a suitable date in the Spring Term.

We will keep parents and carers informed and share the new arrangements as soon as they are confirmed.

RIDDLES OF THE MONTH

LAST MONTHS RIDDLES - DID YOU GUESS RIGHT?

RIDDLE 1: I AM ALWAYS IN FRONT OF YOU BUT CAN NEVER BE SEEN. WHAT AM I? THE FUTURE

RIDDLE 2: A MAN SHAVES SEVERAL TIMES A DAY, YET STILL HAS A BEARD. WHO IS HE? A BARBER

