



Moorside High School
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Happy New Year



Consilium Academies

#Team Moorside Parent Update 10.01.25

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year, it is hard to believe that we have already completed the first academic week of 2025. It has been fantastic to see the students return looking smart and with a revised energy and ready to learn, even though it has been extremely cold. On Tuesday, each year group had an extended assembly with myself and Mr Thompson. The way they conducted themselves was fantastic and it was lovely to have the opportunity to speak to the students as a full year group. We talked to the students about the journey we have been on as a school over the last 18 months and the changes that we have seen, especially around the positive shift in disruption free learning and students engaging in lessons. We were also able to use this assembly to remind students about our expectations, 'The 'Moorside Way' and share with them all the opportunities that are available in school.



Mr Mills has been updating the extra-curricular activities and intervention timetable and a copy of these can be found [here](#) and [here](#). Please do encourage your child to attend these activities, we have lots going on around school and it is all these additional opportunities that make positive memories for the students. We know in September we were aiming to provide Parents/Carers with a trips/visits calendar for the year, however this proved more challenging than anticipated, as opportunities that were initially going to be on the calendar, were not always feasible. What we didn't want to do was promise trips and visits that were then not possible either due to staffing or costs. Mr Mills has worked on this and has now put together a provisional plan. We have also requested that staff start to think about next academic year now, so we can ensure that trips and visits are communicated early and that we have a selection suitable for all ages and families. Please click [here](#) to see the plan. If you have any questions regarding trips, please do contact Mr Mills.

Also, this week, we had over forty Year 11 students attend the Lowry Theatre, to watch a production of 'An Inspector Calls'. The behaviour during the evening was outstanding and it was commented on how polite and sensible they were. Hopefully taking up this opportunity will really support them with their preparation for the summer external GCSE Exams, which will come quicker than we think.

Finally, since September, like all schools, we have also had a focus on attendance. We know it is widely acknowledged that attendance has a direct impact upon achievement, success, and welfare. To encourage good punctuality and attendance, students will continue to be entered into a fortnightly prize draw for 100% attendance for that fortnight and bonus house points will be awarded for improved attendance/punctuality. If you require any support in encouraging your child to attend school, please do speak to their Head of Year.

Thank you for your continued support, have a lovely weekend when it comes.

Mrs Ryles-Dean
Headteacher

Year 11 Parents' Evening -

Year 11 Parents' Evening bookings are open. Please click the following link to book your appointments: [Click here for Parents' Evening Bookings](#). You will notice that when you click the link it says Ellesmere Park, this is due to an IT glitch but please continue and it will allow you to log in as usual.

Year 9 Choices

On Thursday 16th January, we will be holding a Choices Information Evening with the Senior Leadership Team for parents/carers. At this time students, parents/carers will receive detailed information about the curriculum and choices that students can make. Parents/carers will then be invited to the Year 9 Parents' Evening which will take place on Thursday 27th February, to discuss their choices with their child's subject teachers. All Year 9 parents/carers should have received a letter regarding the Year 9 Choices evening this week. If you did not receive this, please click [here](#) to access.

Year 9 and Year 10 Assessments – W/C 20th January 2025

Between Monday 20th and Friday 31st January 2025 inclusive, Year 9 and Year 10 students will sit their in-class assessments during lesson time. These assessments will cover topics they have studied so far this academic year and will provide valuable insights to help students identify gaps in their knowledge and support staff in scaffolding teaching and offering targeted support. Alongside this, for Year 9, the assessments will also help guide their Key Stage 4 (year 10 & 11) subject choices while for Year 10, they are an important step in preparing for their end of year mock exams leading to the final external GCSE exams at the end of Year 11.

Both timetables are on the school website and students will receive a copy with a covering letter early next week. Also on the school website are the subject revision/topic lists. If you have any questions or need advice on how to support your child's preparation, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Year 11 Mock Interviews

On Monday, during the staff Inset Day, we had over sixty-five Year 11 students attend school to take part in an optional mock interview with an external professional. The students attended in business dress with a pre prepared CV. The visitors in school were overwhelmed with how prepared the students were. Some of the comments that we received included:

“Great interview – Jenny came across very professional and was able to answer all my questions in great details. Very enthusiastic and passionate.”

“Fantastic interview – well done! Great eye contact and posture throughout the interview”

“Grace gave a fantastic interview! Answered all questions independently and gave fantastic examples to support points. Had a great mix of personal and academic examples; her personality really came across - Well done!”

“Frankie gave a fantastic interview! She has a career goal in mind and has chosen a college course to help her achieve this. A fantastic interview and a superstar individual! Well done!”

They were an absolute credit to their families, and we are confident this opportunity will put them in a good position for attending their college and apprenticeship interviews.

Year 11 Prom & Leavers Hoodies

We are pleased to confirm that the Year 11 Prom will take place at the Marriott Hotel, Worsley. On Friday 20th June 2025. Student's will be invited into school in the morning for a leavers breakfast and one last celebratory assembly. Students will then leave site at 10:15 to get themselves ready for the evening. Arrival at the Marriot will be from 18:30 with the evening starting at 19:00. More information will be circulated to parents in the coming weeks about both the Prom and the Leavers Hoodies.

Student Planner & Knowledge Organiser

In September, all students were given a student planner and this week they have received their spring term Knowledge Organiser. If a student needs to leave a lesson, the member of staff will put a note in the planner and the student will carry this with them whilst out of lesson. Please can you encourage your child to ensure that they have a school bag with their student planner, knowledge organiser, reading book and all the correct equipment. If your child forgets their planner, they can get a planner replacement card from their form tutor. Thank you for your support with this.

WOW Wednesday

WOW Wednesday is continuing from next week, students can bring any work that makes them feel proud to Mrs Nesfield in the Atrium at lunch - we would love to see it. We look forward to sharing these with you via the parent update and we will also very soon have a gallery on the school website.

In other **WOW** news...



Leilani Seveali'i-Samuels, Year 10, has been cast in a performance to celebrate the 25th birthday of The Lowry Theatre! The company for this full production will be made up of young Salfordians (ages 14-24) alongside professional theatre makers and will tell a tale of Salford & working-class identities through Greek Myths and Legends! Leilani has done so well to be cast after a gruelling audition process where she was up against many other young people from across Salford. Hopefully we can arrange lots of Moorside representatives to watch and support her when she performs in April. Well done Leilani from Team Moorside, we are very proud of you!!

Safeguarding Update - BBC Sounds – County Lines

An estimated 50,000 children in Britain have been groomed into County Lines drug trafficking. The BBC have recently published an excellent podcast series via their '**BBC Sounds**' app. '**County Lines**' consists of three episodes providing insights into the experiences of exploited people, and the wider impact this has on their families. It is an excellent, and thought-provoking listen:



[BBC Sounds - County Lines - Available Episodes](#)

Message from Moorside Matters Facebook Page

Due to limited admin time, we and the school have made the decision to temporarily close the group. However, the page will remain up for a short time to give everyone a chance to access past posts and resources. For any additional information or updates, please reach out directly to school on mshinfo@consilium-at.com or visit the school website. If anyone would like to volunteer to support the group when it returns, please do get in touch on the above address. Thank you for your understanding and for being part of the Moorside Matters community.

Silent Reminder

SILENT REMINDER - WINTER WATER SAFETY



In winter, children and pets are particularly at risk when tempted to play on the ice formed on open water, and adults can find themselves at risk in attempting to save them.

Taking a nice walk in cold weather with your family, friends or dogs in tow can be really refreshing, just make sure you know some simple tips on how to stay safe in winter.

How to stay safe:

- Keep back from slippery banks and wear footwear with a good grip.
- Stick to well-lit areas - the reduction in daylight in the winter adds to risks around water.
- Plan your walks in daylight or along well-lit paths.
- Ice can be extremely vulnerable even during periods of prolonged cold.
- Never go onto the ice.
- Keep children within reach and teach children not to go onto ice.
- Keep dogs on a lead near ice and slippery banks.
- If out enjoying a winter walk, walk with friends.

In an emergency:

- Call 999 – **do not enter cold water or ice to rescue.**
- Try and reach them from the bank using a rope, pole, tree branch, clothing tied together or anything else which can extend your reach.
- Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help. Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.
- If you cannot climb out, wait for help and keep as still as possible. Preserve heat by pressing your arms by your side and keep your legs together. Keep your head clear of the water






WORD OF THE WEEK

PERSEVERANCE



Antonyms: Give up; quit	Synonyms: Persistence	Connected Words: Persevere, persevered
British Values link: Individual liberty	Noun: To show perseverance is to be persistent in a task that is difficult.	Moorside focus: Aspiration
 How do I say this in Spanish? Perserverancia Spanish phrase: I must persevere through this. Debo perseverar a través de esto.		
She had to show perseverance when studying for her final exams.		



Key Dates:

- Thursday 16th January Year 9 Choices Evening
- W/C Monday 20th January Year 9/10 Assessment Window
- Tuesday 21st January Year 11 Mock Results Day
- Thursday 23rd January Year 11 Parents' Evening

All term dates for the academic year, 24/25 25/26 can be found on the school website or by [clicking here](#)

MHSYear7@consilium-at.com , MHSYear8@consilium-at.com, MHSYear9@consilium-at.com,

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CONSIDERATION ASPIRATION RESILIENCE EQUALITY



TEAM MOORSIDE - THE MOORSIDE WAY



Complete all homework and hand in on time



Play your part in the positive learning environment



Wear correct uniform



Planner, equipment, knowledge organiser out on desks



Be respectful to everyone



Use technology appropriately



Look after school property and keep the school tidy



Move around the corridors sensibly



Listen and follow instructions first time



Arrive on time to school and lessons

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO RETURN TO ROUTINE

Most of us look forward to the school holidays as an opportunity to slow down and relax, stay up later, sleep in and generally approach life in a more leisurely fashion. However, this does mean that returning to normal school-day routines can feel like an uphill battle. Here are some practical tips to ease that transition, reduce stress and set children up for success.

1 START SMALL AND EARLY

Begin reintroducing elements of the school routine at least a few days before term starts. Gradually adjust bedtime, wake-up times and mealtimes to be more in line with school-day rhythms. Small changes can make a big difference in avoiding last-minute panic and helping children to readjust smoothly.

2 REVISIT THE SCHEDULE

Involve your child in mapping out their daily routine so they understand what's going to change. Visual tools like charts or calendars can help keeping to that schedule feel more engaging. When children understand and anticipate their personal timetable, they feel more secure and in control.

3 CREATE A SLEEP PLAN

Sleep can present one of the biggest challenges, as children can sometimes become night owls, prone to staying up late during the holidays. Limit screen time before bed and encourage winding-down activities like reading or listening to calming music. A restful night's sleep improves focus, mood and overall wellbeing, making mornings much smoother.

4 ENCOURAGE FRIENDSHIPS

Help your child to reconnect with school friends by organising playdates, catch-ups or arranging to go to after-school clubs. Re-establishing social bonds can make the return to school more exciting and less intimidating, allowing youngsters to focus on the positive aspects of the new term.

5 GRANT RESPONSIBILITY

Give children control over some aspects of the morning routine. Maybe they could be in charge of waking everyone up, serving breakfast or choosing the radio station that everyone listens to while getting ready. Something that gives them a sense of ownership over their morning schedule can help them view the task as one they've chosen to do, rather than being told to do it.

6 FOCUS ON NUTRITION

Make sure children are receiving balanced meals (with regular healthy snacks to boost energy and concentration), putting them in the best possible state to return to education. A nutritious breakfast is particularly crucial for a positive start to the day. Involve children in meal planning to make it enjoyable and collaborative.

7 COMMUNICATE OPENLY

Talk with your child about how they're feeling about returning to school: whether they're excited, anxious or a mix of both. Validating their emotions helps them feel supported and understood. Try asking them about the things they're looking forward to at school, such as seeing their friends again. Focusing on the positives can be useful for children struggling with change.

8 RECONNECT WITH LEARNING

Ease children back into a learning mindset by incorporating fun, educational activities into their home life. Reading a favourite book, playing games that involve maths or discussing an interesting topic can gently reawaken their focus and prime their minds to learn, which can have helpful impacts on their academic performance.

9 PREP TOGETHER

Turn preparation into a shared activity, to shoulder the responsibility together and provide support where needed. Pack school bags, lay out uniforms and plan lunch the night before. This not only reduces early morning stress but also gives children a sense of ownership over being ready for school.

10 BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE

Transitions take time, and every child adjusts differently: so, it's important to stay calm and supportive, especially if they're reacting adversely to the change in their daily life. Be ready to tweak routines as needed, and work with the child to make the return to education as easy as possible for them. Patience can go a long way to setting a positive tone for the new school year.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an education expert with a focus on mental health and wellbeing. Passionate about empowering adults who spend time with and care for young people, Becky specialises in creating practical strategies that promote wellbeing and resilience in children during life's transitions.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-return-to-routine>

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