

# #TEAM MOORSIDE PARENT UPDATE



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy week at Moorside High School, I would like to take this opportunity to share some important updates with you. This week brings a mix of farewells, new beginnings and key reminders as we prepare for the upcoming examination period and continue to support our students' wellbeing.

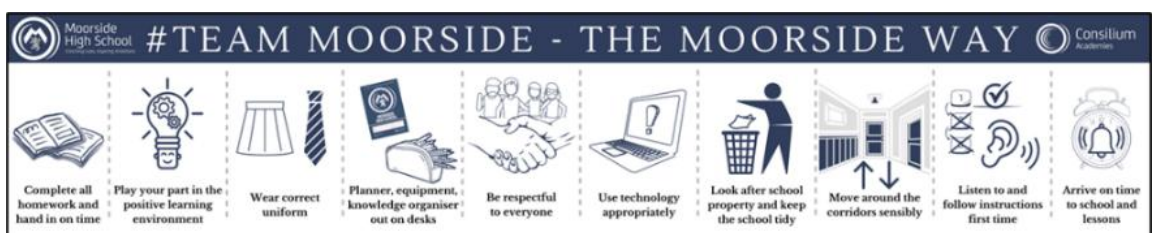
As you may already be aware, today marks Mr Williams' final day in his role as Head of Year 7 at Moorside High School. Mr Williams is leaving us to take up a teaching role within a further education college. While this is a very sad moment for our school community, it is also an exciting new chapter for Mr Williams as he relocates to Wales to spend more time with his family. Mr Williams has been part of Moorside High School for 19 years, and his dedication, commitment, and care for students, particularly Year 7 have been exceptional throughout this time. This decision has certainly not been an easy one for him, and he leaves with our heartfelt thanks and best wishes for the future. Over the past few weeks, Mr Williams has worked closely with the Pastoral and Senior Leadership Teams to ensure a smooth, well-supported transition for the year group. Continuity and stability have been at the heart of this process, and I would like to reassure parents and carers that our Year 7 students will continue to receive the high level of care, guidance, and support they deserve.

We are pleased to welcome Miss Baldwin, who will be taking over the role of Head of Year 7. Miss Baldwin brings with her a wealth of experience and is very much looking forward to supporting our Year 7 students as they progress into Year 8. Over the coming weeks, Miss Baldwin will be introducing herself to students and opportunities will be available for parents and carers to meet and speak with her. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, or worries regarding your child in Year 7, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Baldwin via the Year 7 inbox at [MHYear7@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHYear7@consilium-at.com).

It is hard to believe that I am writing the parent update on the first day in May. The academic year is going so fast. The formal external GCSE examinations begin on Tuesday 6th May and I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our Year 11 parents and carers for the ongoing support they have provided in the lead-up to these important examinations. Our students have worked incredibly hard, and we are confident they will continue to do so throughout the exam period. All Year 11 students are expected to be in school and attend all scheduled lessons during this time, parents/carers should have received a letter regarding this and also what additional sessions will also be on over the next couple of months.

Thank you for your continued support, have a lovely long weekend. School will reopen on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, students must be on site for 08:25 in full school uniform with a school bag. As always, if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [MHInfo@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHInfo@consilium-at.com)

Mrs H Ryles-Dean  
Principal



# Imperial War Museum Trip

Our Year 8 trip to the Imperial War Museum on Monday was a fantastic experience from start to finish. The students represented the school exceptionally well and were even recognised as the best school group, with behaviour that was truly impeccable.

Throughout the day, students engaged maturely and respectfully in all activities, particularly during the Documentary Challenge. They worked collaboratively in small groups, taking on different production roles such as cameraman, clapper loader, and cinematographer. This hands-on experience allowed them to develop both their teamwork and creative skills while deepening their understanding of the museum's powerful historical content.

We are especially proud of how focused and enthusiastic the students were, demonstrating curiosity and thoughtfulness in their work. The Imperial War Museum team will be sending us the documentaries the students created, which we look forward to editing and showcasing. We are excited to share the finished pieces as a reflection of the students' hard work and the success of this memorable trip.



## Flag Football – Back in action!



Flag Football is back in action for its third season, and it has been an exciting start with a brand-new team made up of a mix of Year 8 and Year 9 girls. Some of the players bring previous experience to the team, while others are learning the game for the very first time.

All pupils have begun the season exceptionally well, showing great determination, teamwork and enthusiasm as they learn new plays and develop their skills. Their commitment and effort have been clear both in training and during competitive fixtures.

So far, across two game days, the team has played six matches and achieved an outstanding record by winning every game. This is a fantastic achievement and a testament to their hard work and positive attitude.

There is still one game day to go before Finals Day in June, and we are incredibly excited to see how the team continues to grow and perform. Well done to all the girls involved – a brilliant start to the season!

# Girl's Tag Rugby Tournament

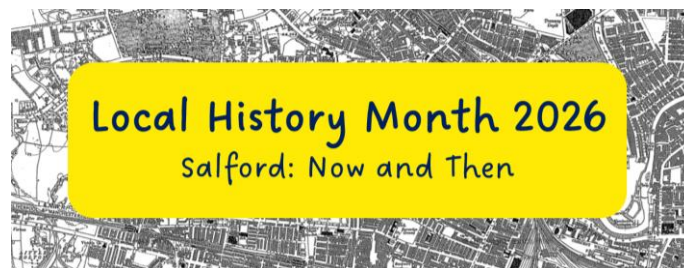


On Thursday, a group of Year 7 and 8 girls who have been attending rugby training since the start of the year were given an exciting opportunity to take part in a Tag Rugby Competition run by the Salford Foundation at CorpAcq Stadium, the home of Salford RLFC.

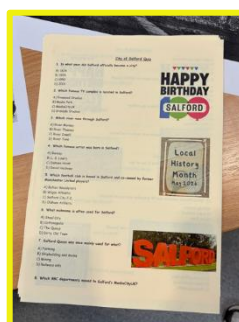
This was the first time the pupils had played together as a team, and they did a fantastic job throughout the competition. With the support of Natasha, who acted as coach and shared her extensive knowledge of the game, the team played with real passion, determination and speed. Their hard work paid off as they proudly scored their first try together as a team.

Both Mrs Henn and Mr Scott were extremely proud of the girls and are excited to see how the team continues to develop as they train and grow together.

A massive well done to all the players involved, a fantastic achievement and a brilliant experience for everyone.



This week we celebrated Local History Month across school, with a particular focus on Salford and its rich heritage. Students took part in an engaging whole-school assembly led by Mr Day, which explored the history of Salford, key developments over time, and the impact of local industry and communities on the city we know today. This helped students develop a stronger sense of place and pride in their local area, while also linking to wider themes of identity and community. To further build on this, we also held a pop-up stall today where students learned about influential local figures, important landmarks, and significant moments in Salford's history. They took part in interactive quizzes and activities, as well as sharing their own reflections on what they enjoy about living in Salford and what makes their community special. This linked particularly well to our ongoing work celebrating the Salford Centenary, helping students to recognise both the history and future of their city and encouraging them to think about their own role within the local community.



# Year 10

## Go For Growth Celebration event

On Wednesday, Year 10 students attended the Go for Growth Mentoring Celebration Event at Manchester Metropolitan University, marking the successful completion of their six-week mentoring programme.

The visit began with a welcome and introduction session, where students were recognised for their commitment to the programme and reminded of the key skills they had developed, including resilience, confidence, and effective study strategies. There was also an interactive quiz focused on universities and courses across England, including a “true or false” element where students had to decide whether certain courses were real. This sparked lots of discussion and curiosity- who knew that ethical hacking is now a course you can study!



This was followed by a campus tour, giving students first-hand experience of a university environment and helping them to begin considering post-16 and post-18 options, including further and higher education. Students also took part in mentor-led reflection sessions, where they revisited the skills, they had developed during the programme and discussed how these can support their next steps, whether that be college, sixth form, apprenticeships, or university.

A highlight of the day was a group activity where students worked collaboratively to design and create their own university societies. This included a “Makeup Society” and a “Gym Society,” where students planned the purpose of their society and developed ideas for attracting new members at a Freshers’ Fair. The day concluded with a certificate presentation, celebrating students’ achievements and recognising the progress they have made throughout the programme.

Overall, the trip was a highly positive and inspiring experience, helping students to build confidence, reflect on their personal development, and gain a clearer understanding of the opportunities available to them in the future.



# Changes to the School Day – Exam Season Update



Due to some examinations requiring up to two hours in the afternoon, from Tuesday 5th May 2026 until Friday 19th June 2026, the lunch and R time periods will take place earlier in the day. This adjustment will allow the school to maintain a calm, well-organised environment and ensure exams can run smoothly.

The revised arrangements are as follows:

- **Years 10 & 11**
  - R time: **11:50 – 12:15**
  - Lunch: **12:15 – 12:55**
- **Years 7, 8 & 9**
  - Lunch: **11:50 – 12:30**
  - R time: **12:30 – 12:55**



Following lunch and R time, all students will return to lessons for:

- **Period 4: 12:55 – 13:55**
- **Period 5: 13:55 – 14:55**

These changes are in place solely to support examination arrangements and ensure our Year 11 students can undertake their exams in the best possible conditions. We appreciate your continued support and understanding during this important time. If you have any questions regarding these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Running in support of MIND

We are incredibly proud of Miss Wells, who will be taking on the AJ Bell Great Manchester Half Marathon next month in support of MIND, the mental health charity. Miss Wells is running to raise awareness and funds for mental health support, a cause that closely aligns with the work she does with our young people every day. We know how much dedication and commitment this challenge takes, and Team Moorside are right behind her as she prepares for the event.

If you would like to support Miss Wells and donate to this fantastic cause, you can do so via her fundraising page here: <https://ajbellgreatmanchesterrun2026.enthuse.com/pf/eleanor-wells>

Thank you for your support in cheering her on – we wish her the very best of luck!



# Current Conversations-

## Real Talk, Real time events



Current Conversations. This feature is designed to keep you informed about topical issues, themes, and events that students are discussing in school. It will also provide helpful context, conversation starters, and guidance so that you can continue these discussions at home. Our aim is to support students in developing awareness of the world around them, building confidence to discuss current topics, and making meaningful links between their learning and real-life events. We hope this section helps strengthen those home-school conversations and offers useful insights into what your child is exploring in school.

Each Friday during R Time, students explore and discuss topical news stories from around the world. These sessions help develop critical thinking, spark curiosity, and build confidence in expressing informed opinions.

### The Epstein Files

The Epstein files are a large collection of court documents, investigation records, and related materials connected to the U.S. criminal case against Jeffrey Epstein and his associate Ghislaine Maxwell. These files were publicly released in stages, including significant disclosures in late 2025, and include information such as correspondence, testimony, and the names of individuals who had contact with Epstein and Maxwell. It is important to note that appearing in the documents does not, in itself, indicate wrongdoing.

Epstein worked in finance and built a social network that included wealthy and influential figures, such as Bill Clinton, Prince Andrew (Andrew Mountbatten-Windsor), and Donald Trump. Over a period of around twenty years, Epstein and Maxwell recruited and abused more than 1,000 girls and young women, most of whom were under 18 years old.

In school, we discussed this case in an age-appropriate way to explore themes such as abuse of power, accountability, personal safety, consent, and the role of bystanders and institutions, focusing on broader learning rather than any detailed accounts of the crimes. The session did not include graphic detail, as this is not necessary for understanding the key issues. We recognise that this topic can be unsettling, and students were reminded that feelings such as shock, anger, or confusion are normal. They were encouraged to speak to a trusted adult if needed, and support is available in school. Our aim is to ensure discussions are appropriate, supportive, and help students become informed and responsible young people.

### Questions to Discuss at Home

- What do you think are some ways people in positions of power should be held accountable when something goes wrong?
- How can we make sure people feel safe speaking up if they see or experience something that doesn't feel right?

### Where to get support

These sites are designed specifically for young people and focus on understanding key ideas like safety, trust, consent, and speaking up, rather than details on the case.

- NSPCC – Child Sexual Exploitation information for young people  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/child-sexual-exploitation/>
- Childline – Relationships and staying safe  
<https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/>
- The Mix - Helpline for people under 25 and website with information on different topics  
[www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk)

# Safeguarding Update –

## Teenagers, Alcohol Use & Risk-Taking Behaviour

As children grow into adolescence, they naturally begin to explore greater independence. Social events such as parties can sometimes involve alcohol, and being around friends in these situations can make it harder for young people to make safe choices. This is a common experience for many families, and understanding the influence of peer pressure can help parents and carers feel better equipped to support their child. Open conversations, reassurance and knowing where to seek support can make a real difference.

### How can Parents/Carers support...

- Talk openly and calmly with your child about friendships, parties and social situations.
- Encourage them to share how they're feeling and who they are spending time with.
- Reinforce that it's okay to say no and to ask for help if they feel uncomfortable or under pressure.
- Seek advice early if you have concerns – support works best when accessed sooner rather than later.

### Early Break

Moorside works closely with the Early Break service, an agency that supports young people around drug and alcohol-related issues. Early Break offers a non-judgemental, supportive approach, focused on helping young people make informed and safer choices.

As part of this partnership, Early Break regularly hold drop-in sessions in school. These sessions allow students to have informal, confidential conversations about any worries or situations involving drugs, alcohol or other risk-taking behaviours. Where appropriate, further targeted intervention sessions can be arranged to provide additional support. Students are made aware of the Early Break service in school and are encouraged to access it if they feel they need support or someone to talk to. If you feel that this support may be helpful for your child, please contact a member of the safeguarding team.



### **Key Dates:**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May - Bank Holiday – School closed

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May - School re-opens 08:25

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May - Start of the Year 11 external GCSE Examinations

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - School closes 14:55 – May Half Term

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - School re-opens 08:25

## **Wider Curricular, Intervention and Exam Dates**

Please [click here](#) to access the Wider Curriculum Timetable for Years 7-10.

The Year 11 Intervention/Study Sessions Timetable can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

All Summer GCSE Exam dates/times can be found on the school website or by [clicking here](#)

All term dates for the academic year, 26/27 can be found on the school website or by [clicking here](#)

[MHSYear7@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear7@consilium-at.com), [MHSYear8@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear8@consilium-at.com), [MHSYear9@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSYear9@consilium-at.com),

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Twitter - [@moorsidehigh](https://twitter.com/@moorsidehigh)

Instagram – [moorsidehighofficial](https://www.instagram.com/moorsidehighofficial)



# WORD OF THE WEEK FUNDAMENTAL



### Antonyms:

Secondary; unimportant

### Synonyms:

Foundational; essential

### Connected Words:

Fundament

### British Values link:

Individual Liberty

### Adjective:

If something is fundamental, it forms a necessary base or core; of central importance.

### Moorside focus:

C.A.R.E



**How do I say this in Spanish?** Fundamentales

**Spanish phrase:** Being kind is one of my fundamental values.

Ser amable es uno de mis valores fundamentales

The CARE values are fundamental to the running of Moorside High School.



## SILENT REMINDER

## MOVING AROUND THE CORRIDORS SENSIBLY



### Why

1. We are a big, busy school and need to be considerate of all age groups who move on the corridors at the same time. (Remember how it felt to be the youngest in the school!!)
2. Being sensible eliminates the chances of stairs and corridors becoming overcrowded.
3. All students and staff should feel safe in school, being considerate of each other's personal space enables everyone to travel around the building with a sense of security.

### Rules

1. Always walk on the corridors, and be sensible on the stairs, never run.
2. When queuing for lesson or lunch, queue in a single file to prevent blocking the whole corridor.
3. Walk on the left hand side of corridors and stairs, and follow the exit strategy from lessons.
4. If corridors/door ways are busy, be patient and allow students in front of you to clear a path before moving on.
5. If an incident occurs, don't rush towards it. Be socially responsible and keep away and seek support from a teacher.

Anyone who acts with disregard for themselves or others inside the school building will face a consequence to reflect on their behaviour.

CONSIDERATION ASPIRATION RESILIENCE EQUALITY

# THE ANNUAL CONSILIUM AWARDS

## An Exciting Event – The Consilium Awards 2026

The Consilium Awards are a prestigious celebration recognising the students and staff who show our Trust values of Excellence, Integrity and Equity every day. This is a special opportunity to celebrate the hard work, dedication and achievements of those making a real difference in our school community.

Staff will be nominating students in the coming weeks for demonstrating our values. The student with the most votes from our school will be invited to attend the main Awards ceremony in July at Leeds Football Stadium, Elland Road, alongside winners from other schools in the Trust. The ultimate winners will be announced on the night!

It promises to be an inspiring and memorable evening, celebrating the outstanding contributions of our young people and staff across the region.

