Moorside High School

6TH NOVEMBER 2026

#Team Moorside Update

Proud to be part of Consilium Academies



Mrs Ryles-Dean - Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very positive and settled start to the half-term at Moorside, and I would like to thank all students, staff and parents for their continued support. Attendance has been strong this week, and it has been wonderful to see so many students taking pride in their appearance and wearing their uniform correctly.

As always, maintaining our high standards is a collective effort. Please continue to remind your child about the importance of dressing smartly, wearing their uniform professionally and taking pride in representing Team Moorside. We are still seeing a number of skirts being rolled, resulting in a length that does not meet our expected standards. We would appreciate your support in checking uniform before your child leaves for school each morning and reinforcing these expectations should they arrive home without meeting the required standard.

Last half-term was incredibly busy, and as we head towards Christmas, the calendar shows no signs of slowing down. A huge thank you to all our parents, students and staff for their generosity and support of our recent charity and community initiatives.

Our pink-themed cakes and treats sale raised an impressive £161.51 for Breast Cancer Now, and it was fantastic to see so many students getting involved by wearing pink accessories to support this important cause. We also donated 76kg of food and essential items to Salford Foodbank, collected on the final day of last half-term. We hope these donations will make a real difference to local families and individuals facing difficult circumstances. The kindness and generosity shown by Team Moorside continues to make us incredibly proud.

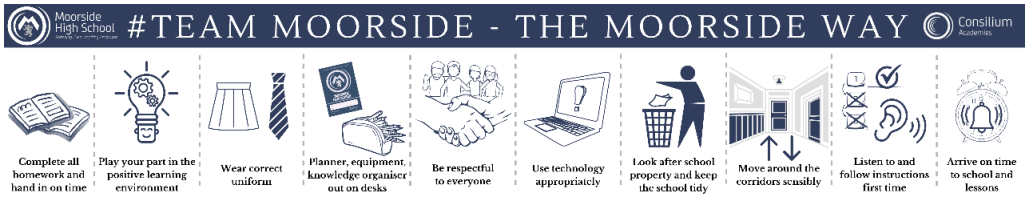


Looking ahead, we have even more exciting opportunities for students to support worthwhile causes. Next week, we will be fundraising for Children in Need through a cake sale, sponsored physical activities across our academies and our new *Bear Pong* challenge. We will also be supporting Cash for Kids and Mission Christmas, with further details to follow in the coming weeks. Thank you, as always, for helping us encourage our young people to think of others and make a positive difference within our local community.

I would also like to recognise our Year 11 students, who have approached their mock examinations with maturity, determination and resilience. We are extremely proud of the attitude they have shown throughout the examination period. The mock exams continue next week, and it is important that students continue to work hard and give their very best effort. These examinations provide us with valuable information, helping us to identify any gaps in learning so that we can put in place targeted intervention and support ahead of the summer examinations. If your child has missed a mock examination due to illness, they will complete their catch-up examinations on Thursday and Friday next week.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. By working together, we can continue to ensure our students achieve highly, contribute positively to their community and represent Team Moorside with pride.
Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs H. Ryles-Dean
Principal



Year 11 Mock Examination Prep – Walking Talking Mocks

At the end of last half-term, our Year 11 students demonstrated real commitment and determination as they prepared for their mock examinations. For four consecutive Thursdays, students fully embraced a series of English Walking, Talking Mocks, designed to help them develop their examination skills, confidence and understanding of what examiners are looking for in high-quality responses.



Walking, Talking Mocks are structured examination sessions where teachers guide students through exam questions step by step, modelling the thought processes, planning techniques and strategies required to achieve success. Students are encouraged to think like examiners, understand how marks are awarded and develop effective approaches to answering questions under exam conditions.

The engagement from our Year 11 students was outstanding. They approached each session with maturity and focus, asking thoughtful questions and actively participating throughout. These sessions provided valuable opportunities to revisit key knowledge, refine examination techniques and build confidence ahead of the mock examination period.

A huge thank you must also go to our English team for their dedication in planning and delivering these sessions. The time invested by both staff and students has helped ensure that Year 11 entered their mock examinations feeling well prepared and ready to demonstrate their knowledge and skills.

We are incredibly proud of the positive attitude Year 11 have shown throughout this process and look forward to seeing the progress they continue to make as they move closer to their GCSE examinations next summer.

Elevate mentoring programme

Well done to our Year 11 students who recently completed their final session of the Elevate Mentoring Programme in partnership with Squire Patton Boggs, held at 20 Stories in Manchester.



Over the past 12 months, students have developed their employability skills, explored future career pathways, built confidence and gained valuable insights into the world of work through working with dedicated mentors.

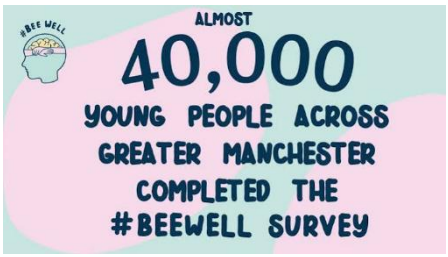
We are incredibly proud of their engagement throughout the programme and look forward to launching Elevate with our new group of Year 10 students in January!

BeeWell Survey 2026

We are pleased to be taking part in the #BeeWell Survey 2026, a large-scale annual wellbeing survey for secondary school students across England. The survey has been co-created with young people and leading mental health experts and is delivered in partnership with The University of Manchester, The Gregson Family Foundation and Anna Freud.

This year marks the sixth year that Moorside has participated in the survey. The information gathered helps build a better understanding of young people's experiences, wellbeing, relationships, health and happiness, while also supporting schools and local organisations to make informed decisions about how best to support young people.

Students in Years 7, 9 and 10 will complete the survey during November as part of their Personal Development programme. The survey is completed online in school and provides students with an opportunity to share their views and experiences in a safe and confidential way.



The survey will take place on the following dates:

- Year 10: 9th to 11th November
- Year 9: 18th to 20th November
- Year 7: 24th to 26th November

Participation in the survey is voluntary, and students can choose not to answer any questions they would prefer to skip. We value the insights that our students provide through #BeeWell each year and look forward to using the findings to further enhance wellbeing support and opportunities for young people across our school community.

For more information about the #BeeWell programme, please visit the University of Manchester's #BeeWell website.

Year 7 Enrichment Takeover Hour

Our first Year 7 Enrichment Takeover Hour was a great success, with all students taking part in an engaging journalism workshop. They had the opportunity to learn more about the world of journalism and media, explore potential careers in the industry and hear first-hand about the experiences of a journalist. It was fantastic to see students getting involved and exploring something beyond their usual curriculum. We are now looking forward to our next Enrichment Takeover Hour in the final week of this half-term, when students will have another opportunity to try something new, develop their skills and enjoy a different enrichment experience.



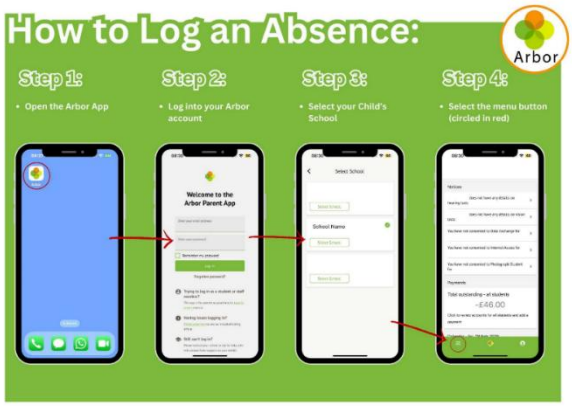
Important Attendance Update

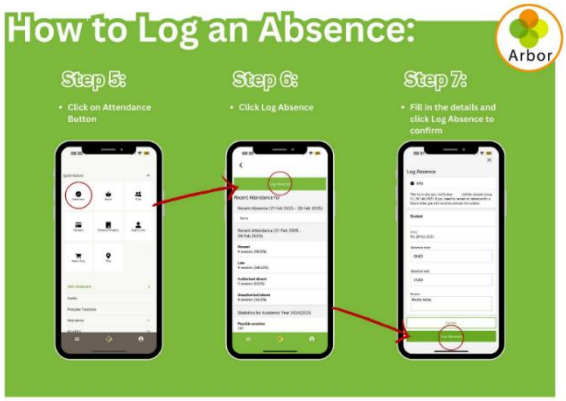
To help us manage attendance and safeguarding more effectively, all absences must be reported through the Arbor Parent App or Parent Portal. From this point, we will no longer be able to accept absence notifications by email or telephone.

We know that mornings can be busy, and using Arbor provides a quick and simple way to let us know if your child is unable to attend school. It also ensures that information reaches the right staff promptly and is recorded accurately.

At Moorside, we are committed to ensuring every student has the best possible opportunity to succeed. Excellent attendance is one of the most important factors in supporting achievement, wellbeing and positive outcomes. Every lesson matters, and we want all students in school every day, on time and ready to learn.

If you have not yet set up Arbor, or need support accessing the app, please contact the school and we will be happy to help. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership in helping your child make the most of every school day.





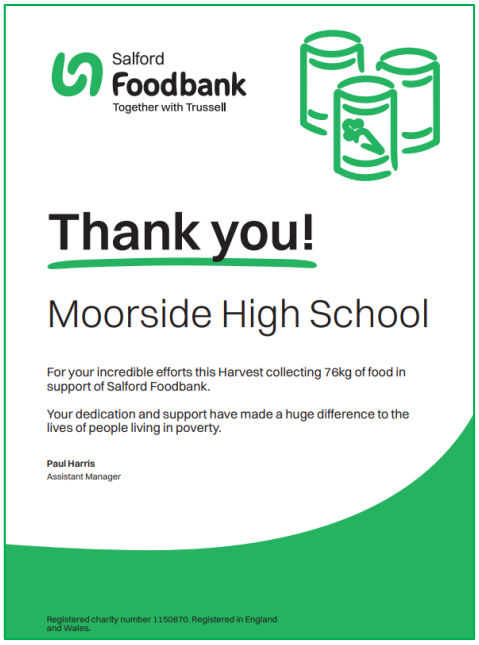
Harvest Appeal

We would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for the incredible support you continue to show through our Harvest Appeal. Your generosity makes a real difference and demonstrates the strong sense of community that we are so proud of at Moorside High School.

As a reminder, we are still collecting non-perishable food items to support local families and individuals who may be facing difficult circumstances. Every donation, no matter how small, will help those in need and is greatly appreciated.

The appeal also contributes towards our House competition, giving students the opportunity to work together, earn valuable House points and, most importantly, make a positive impact on others.

So far this year, our school community donated an incredible 76kg of food to Salford Foodbank, receiving special thanks for the difference this made to people in our local area.



Thank you once again for your continued kindness, compassion and support. Together, we can help those who need it most and show our young people the importance of looking out for others.

PSHE Autumn Term 2

This half term, students will continue to develop their knowledge, understanding and personal skills through our PSHE curriculum. The programme is designed to support students' personal development, wellbeing and preparation for life beyond school, ensuring they are equipped to make informed, safe and responsible decisions.

PSHE Topics for Autumn 2

Year 7 – Transition to Team Moorside (Part 2)
Students will continue to build confidence as they settle into secondary school life. Lessons will focus on developing positive relationships, strengthening organisational skills, promoting resilience and helping students feel fully integrated into the Team Moorside community.

Year 8 – Physical Health and Mental Wellbeing
Students will explore the importance of maintaining both physical and mental health. Topics will include healthy lifestyles, emotional wellbeing, managing stress, building resilience and understanding how positive choices can support overall health and happiness.

Year 9 – Relationships and Sex Education: Sex, the Law and Consent
As part of our Relationships and Sex Education programme, students will learn about healthy relationships, consent, personal boundaries and the legal aspects surrounding sexual relationships. These lessons aim to promote respect, safety and informed decision-making.

Year 10 – Staying Safe Online and Offline
Students will examine a range of issues linked to personal safety, including violence, criminal exploitation and strategies for seeking help and support. Lessons will focus on recognising risks, making safe choices and understanding where to access trusted guidance when needed.

Year 11 – Life Beyond School
As students prepare for the next stage of their education and future careers, lessons will focus on pathways beyond school, career aspirations, employability skills, further education and training opportunities. Students will be encouraged to consider their goals and begin planning confidently for their future.
Through these important PSHE topics, we aim to support students in becoming confident, informed and responsible young people, ready to thrive both within school and beyond.

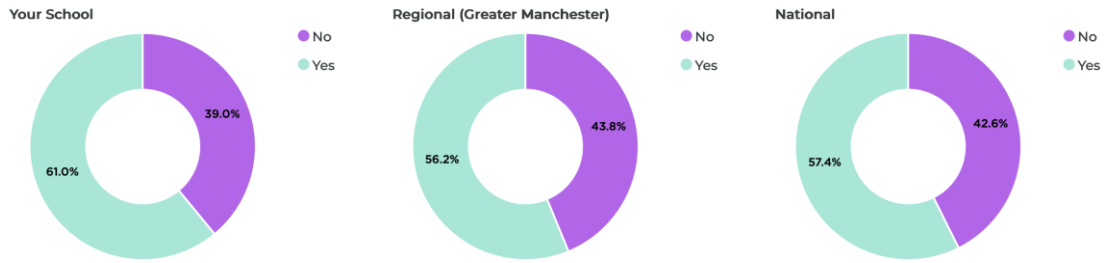




Each week, students have the opportunity to share their views and cast their vote on topical issues affecting young people and wider society through our Votes for Schools programme. Here's a look at the questions students have been considering and voting on over the past two weeks.

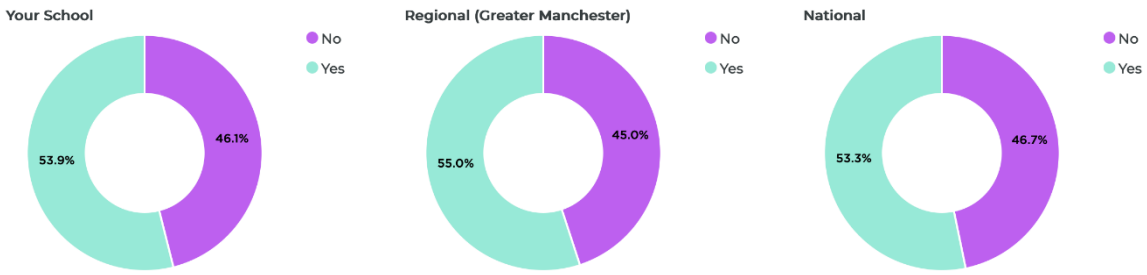
Should we talk about Brexit?

Before half term, students explored the question "Should we talk about Brexit?" as part of their weekly Votes for Schools activity. With Brexit back in the news, following discussions about strengthening Britain's relationship with the EU, students considered whether this remains an important issue today and how decisions about Britain's relationship with Europe might affect their lives and future opportunities. They also reflected on whether there are other issues they feel deserve greater attention.



Does everyone get what consent means?

This week, students explored the meaning of consent and why it is important to respect others' choices, personal boundaries, and feelings. With recent conversations in the news highlighting issues around consent and respect, students considered what consent looks like in everyday situations and why it is important to ensure that everyone feels safe, respected, and heard.



VotesforSchools – Find out more about the weekly programmes and how it gives young people opportunities to discuss current issues and have their say.

Safeguarding Update:

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY - Keeping the conversation going...

Consideration	Considerate about ourselves, others, and our community.
Aspiration	Aspire to be the very best in all that we do.
Resilience	Work hard and never give up. Seek help and help others.
Equality	Value diversity and tackle discrimination.



This week during assemblies, students have explored how their actions affect others beyond our school gates.

We spoke about our CARE Values in action in the wider community. Conversations at home help us reinforce the same message. Please discuss consideration for others, responding to peer pressure and asking for help so that school and families can work together.

Following reports of anti-social behaviour involving fireworks in the community, students have been reminded of the serious dangers, the impact on others and the potential for police involvement. Please reinforce these messages at home by encouraging your child to behave responsibly, avoid taking part in or encouraging this behaviour and move away from unsafe situations.

Moorside High School
Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions



MESSAGES TO REVISIT TOGETHER AT HOME

ONLINE CHATS
Talk about group chats and harmful content. Build confidence around reporting concerns.

PEER INFLUENCE
Walk away from unsafe behaviour. Avoid encouraging it, filming it or sharing it.

DARKER EVENINGS
Agree plans and check-ins. Use well-lit routes, safe crossings and keep valuables out of sight.

OUR SHARED COMMUNITY
Keep noise reasonable, keep entrances clear when exiting our school building and do not litter. We are a shared site and community!

KEEP TALKING. SHARE CONCERNS. WORK TOGETHER.

Please share any concerns with your child's Head of Year or the Safeguarding Team.

Christmas Card Competition



We are running a Christmas Card competition over the next four weeks. The competition is open to all students and the winning design will be published and sent out to other schools and our local community from Team Moorside.

All entries should be handed in at reception before 12noon on Monday 30th November.

The design should be no bigger than A5 and should represent us as a school. We are really looking forward to seeing all the designs.

Year 11 Update

Year 11 have continued to focus on preparing for their Autumn Mock Examinations, with an emphasis on effective revision, organisation and developing the confidence needed to approach their GCSE examinations.

Before half term, students attended an assembly focused on mock examination logistics, helping them understand the expectations and procedures they will need to follow throughout the examination period. Students have also received subject revision lists to support their preparation and help them identify the key topics and knowledge to focus on.

We are pleased to share that GCSEPod activation has now reached 95% of the Year 11 cohort, which is a fantastic improvement. Engagement with GCSEPod has also increased significantly, with both the number of students using the platform and the number of Pods accessed reaching their highest recorded levels since the school began using GCSEPod. This is an incredibly positive step forward and reflects the growing commitment towards independent revision. Our focus now shifts towards building on this progress and ensuring students continue to use GCSEPod regularly and effectively to support their learning. We strongly encourage parents and carers to check that their child can access their GCSEPod account and support regular use at home.

Year 11 have now begun their Autumn Mock Examinations, providing an important opportunity to experience formal examination conditions and demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have developed so far. We encourage all students to approach each examination positively, arrive fully prepared and continue revising throughout the examination period.

Looking Ahead

Mock examinations will continue into the following week, with students encouraged to maintain their focus and make the most of any remaining revision opportunities. Regular attendance, good routines and a positive attitude will be particularly important as students complete this next stage of their GCSE preparation.

NAVIGATING HIGHER EDUCATION:
A parent & Carers Series 2026-2027

Greater Manchester Higher

Our range of online talks aim to empower you by providing the knowledge you need to guide your young person when navigating higher education.

- **Wednesday 14 October, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  Navigating Higher Education
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y11 - 13
- **Wednesday 18 November, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  Supporting GCSE Choices
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y9
- **Wednesday 9 December, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  Discover Options After Y11
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y10 - 11
- **Wednesday 24 February, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  Future Ready: Supporting your child's higher education journey
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y10 - 13
- **Tuesday 23 March, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  A guide to student finance and Disabled Student Allowance
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y10 - 13
- **Tuesday 11 May, 6 – 7pm; Online**
  Accessing Support in Higher Education
  Suitable for parents and carers of learners who are currently in Y10 - 13



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO BOOK YOUR PLACE, PLEASE VISIT:

gmhigher.ac.uk/parents-carers



Key Dates:

W/C9th November	Year 11 Mock Exams continue
Friday 27th November	School Closed – INSET Day
Thursday 3rd December	Year 11 Parent/Carer Evening
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
Friday 18th December	School Closes for the Christmas Break 14:55

SILENT REMINDER Punctuality to school



All term dates for the 2026-2027 academic year can be found on the school website or by clicking here

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CONSIDERATION ASPIRATION RESILIENCE EQUALITY