

15th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Curriculum Information 2025/26

Thank you all for helping us to start the 2025/26 academic year so positively. It has been fantastic to welcome our new year 7 students to Whitcliffe Mount, and we are really pleased to see they have settled so well, thanks (in part) to a successful transition week back in July. We also have some new students into other year groups, and we welcome them into our community as well as welcoming back all our returning students in other year groups.

We celebrated the 2025 GCSE results with our year 11 leavers back in August, and we are delighted to hear that so many of them have accessed aspirational and exciting courses at college or sixth form or started an apprenticeship. We cannot wait to see just how well our new year 11's can do in 2026.

As is normal at the start of an academic year, we are writing to you with an update around our Curriculum and key dates. We want to share with all parents and carers what our curriculum looks like and how we structure it to help everyone achieve their personal best.

Quality of Education priorities

As part of our **culture of continuous improvement**, we regularly review our curriculum and the delivery of the content in the classroom. Our aim remains for our students to be taught by specialist teachers who are passionate and knowledgeable about their subjects and for our students to gain this enthusiasm as they learn. We ask all students to **try their best** and continue to challenge them to **think and work hard in all their lessons**. We know that **expert instruction** and **regular practice** is the key to helping students **know and remember more over time** and we work constantly with our staff on their professional development to ensure your child's educational experience is the best it can be.

We are always focus on the following priorities to ensure that the Quality of Education that we provide at WMA is strong:

- Ensuring the curriculum is as **ambitious** as possible for all students to challenge them to work hard and achieve their personal best.
- Ensuring all lessons have **structure and routines** which allow students to focus on **understanding and applying the Golden Knowledge** from that lesson.
- Ensuring our models of assessment, both in lesson and over time, allow our teachers to **effectively identify where there are gaps in understanding** and then to **skilfully close these gaps** through further reteach or support.
- Ensure all students with **specific needs are supported to achieve** in line with their peers.
- Ensure all our students are supported to **be reading at a level which supports them to access the entire curriculum** and to foster a **love of reading** for pleasure.
- Developing our student's ability to **revise and work independently** and outside of school to **build learning habits** which will support them for the next stages of their learning journey.

If you have any questions about these priorities, please do not hesitate to contact us.



01274 851152



Whitcliffe Mount,
A SHARE Academy
Turnsteads Avenue, Cleckheaton,
West Yorkshire BD19 3AQ



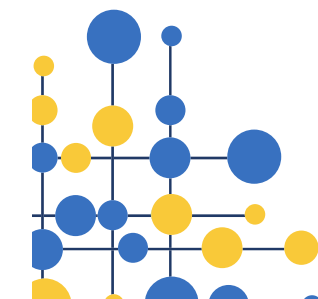
whitcliffe.office@sharemat.co.uk



www.whitcliffemount.co.uk

Valuing people, supporting personal best

Share Multi-Academy Trust, an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales 07729878.
Head Office SHARE Multi-Academy Trust, c/o Shelley College, Huddersfield Road, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8NL





Curriculum

We want to allow all parents/carers to be involved in their students' learning journey at Whitcliffe Mount and we are pleased to remind you where you can find the information on what they will be learning this year, as well as some key dates.

The **Key Stage 3 (KS3)** curriculum provides your child with an opportunity to experience a wide range of subjects and broaden their understanding of what different subject specialisms looks like, beyond what they have experienced at primary school. Our KS3 courses are ambitious and engaging and cover the National Curriculum and beyond, linking all key topics to students' experiences beyond the classroom.

During Year 9, students will start to consider which courses they wish to study at GCSE level and will be in an excellent position to start and succeed at their chosen subjects due to the skills and knowledge they have learnt throughout KS3. You can find the topic areas and the components of learning covered each half term on our school website.

In **Key Stage 4 (KS4)**, your child will continue to follow a broad, balanced, ambitious and inclusive curriculum. Through our flexible and personalised routes, students continue to develop their understanding and knowledge of specialist subjects, to achieve their full potential and access the Post 16 provision they choose.

If you wish to see in more detail what you student is studying in each subject in each year, all our curriculum plans are available on our website: [Whitcliffe Mount, A SHARE Academy - Curriculum Plans](#)

Assessment

The following dates throughout the year will be used to share your child's **attitude to learning (ATL)** data and their **progress through 'working at' grades**. In KS3, student progress is measured in the form of subcategories titled emerging, developing, securing, and mastering. In KS4, students will receive a 'working at grade' and 'professional predicted grade.'

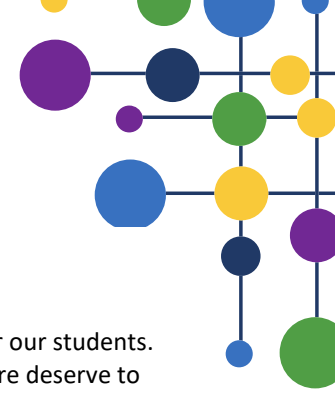
We received positive feedback on the revised ATL grade descriptors that were launched last September and are confident that these are informative to parents and students in sharing how your student is doing in each lesson and if there are any areas for improvement. Details of the descriptors will be shared when the first ATL report is issued, and an abbreviated version can be seen in student planners.

Year Group	Attitude to Learning	Monitoring 1 (ATL & Progress)	Monitoring 2 (ATL & Progress)
Year 7	22 nd October 2025	5 th December 2025	28 th April 2026
Year 8	22 nd October 2025	18 th December 2025	24 th March 2026
Year 9	22 nd October 2025	18 th December 202	18 th March 2026
Year 10	22 nd October 2025	21 st January 2026	28 th April 2026
Year 11	2 nd October 2025	2 nd October 2025 <u>Mock Results Afternoon</u>	10 th February 2026 <u>Mock Results</u>

Behaviour for learning updates

In order for our environment to be **purposeful** and most **effective** for **quality first teaching** we have made a few tweaks to our behaviour system which have been shared with students since our return. The changes are as follows:

- Detentions are booked for the next day and only run on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
- 3 x B3 within 1 subject will result in a class report
- 3 x B3 in 3 or more subjects will result in a Head of Year report
- Repeated minor behaviours will escalate over a half term and can result in a consequence from a 30-minute detention up to a suspension.



It is important to highlight these changes are to **support the continued high expectations** we have for our students. 99% of our student population **work hard**, are **ready to learn** and **meet our expectations** and therefore deserve to have a purposeful climate to learn in. We will not tolerate those students that cannot meet our expectations.

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Learning inside the classroom needs to be supplemented with learning outside of the classroom as well. Homework is a key part of being successful in any subject. Completing home learning tasks will help students to build links between subject components, strengthen recall and broaden knowledge. As such, students are required to complete tasks set within each subject area.

Key Stage 3 (**Year 7, 8 and 9**) will be set at least **one homework task per subject, every week in English, Maths and Science**, each task will take around 30 minutes to complete.

Key Stage 4 **students (Year 10 and 11)** will be set **one homework task per subject, every week**. Each task will take at least 30 minutes to complete. These will support students in developing recall skills, as well as prepare them for examinations and assessments.

We are running Achieve revision sessions for Year 11 after school and the programme will be shared with students and is available on the website.

Extra-Curricular Activities.

We also wish to provide the students with opportunities to find their passions and talents beyond the classroom and to build the personal skills that come from joining in with other students and other activities. Whitcliffe Mount has a long tradition of providing a high quality extra-curricular sports/PE provision and we are working on matching that with a range of other clubs and activities that students might wish to attend outside of their lessons.

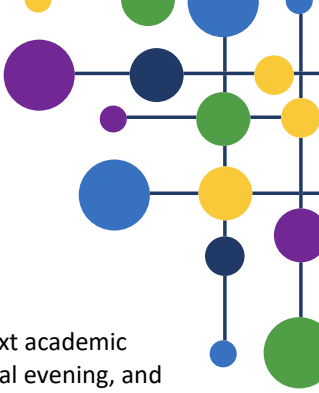
The club timetable has been shared with students and is updated regularly on the website.

Key dates

The following list includes key dates throughout the academic year.

Progress and parents' evenings will allow you time to communicate face to face with subject teachers and discuss your child's progress.

Date	Year	Information Evening
Wednesday 1st October 2025	5/6	Open Evening for Year 5/6 students (5:00pm – 7:30pm)
Thursday 2nd October 2025	11	Mock Results afternoon
Wednesday 15 th October 2025	11	Year 11 Progress Evening and Careers Fair (3:30pm- 7:30pm)
Wednesday 12 th November 2025	7	Meet the Form Tutor Evening (3:30pm-6:30pm)
Thursday 18 th December 2025	9	Parents Evening (3:30pm-7:30pm)
Tuesday 2 nd December 2025 to Friday 16 th January 2026 (2 weeks either side of the Christmas Break)	11	Year 11 Mock Exams
Thursday 22nd January 2026	10	Parents Evening (3:30pm-7:30pm)
Tuesday 10 th February 2026	11	Mock Results afternoon
Thursday 26 th February 2026	11	Parents Evening (3:30pm-7:30pm)
Wednesday 4th March 2026	9	Year 9 Options Evening (5:00pm- 8:00pm)
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	8	Parents Evening (3:30pm-7:30pm)
Thursday 30 th April 2026	7	Parents Evening (3:30pm-7:30pm)
Monday 22 nd June to Monday 6 th July 2026	10	Year 10 Mock exams



We look forward to meeting you and your child to discuss their progress and achievements over the next academic year and will be in touch with you in advance of each evening to share with you details of each individual evening, and information regarding access to our online booking system.

Should you have any questions about your child's curriculum or progress please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance or directly with myself via helen.jeffrey@sharemat.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Jeffrey', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Mrs Jeffrey
Deputy Headteacher (Quality of Education)