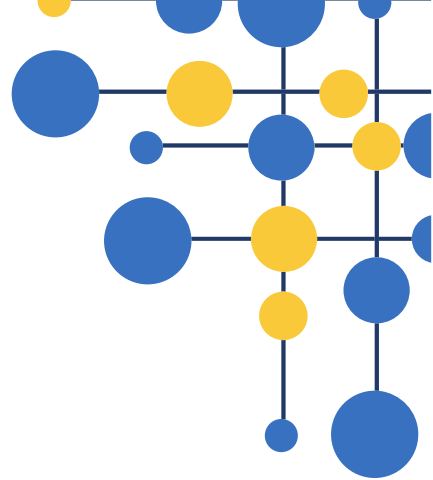




Wednesday, 15th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and to reflect on what has been a truly special few weeks at Whitcliffe Mount Academy.

For me personally, it has been an incredible first seven weeks as Headteacher. I have been overwhelmed by the warmth of the welcome I have received from our students, staff, parents and wider community. Every day I have seen examples of young people who are determined to succeed, staff who go above and beyond, and families who care deeply about our academy. I could not be prouder to lead Whitcliffe Mount.

Although seven weeks is only a short time, we have achieved a great deal together. We have launched our new academy values of **Work Hard, Model Kindness and Aim High**, and I have been delighted to see these values already becoming part of daily life across the school.

Over recent weeks we have celebrated so much together, including:

Outstanding reward events recognising hundreds of students for their excellent conduct, attendance and commitment to learning.

A fantastic Sports Day that showcased teamwork, determination and school spirit.

National Thank a Teacher Day, where the heartfelt messages from families reminded us just how special our staff are.

Year 11 leavers assembly and prom, marking the end of their five years at Whitcliffe Mount and the hard work and excellence they have showcased over their time with us.

Strong conduct from our Year 10 students throughout their mock examinations despite the exceptionally hot weather.

An amazing whole-school ten-mile walk, where the local community came out in force to cheer us on, and the feedback we received about the conduct, strength and commitment from our students and staff was incredible.



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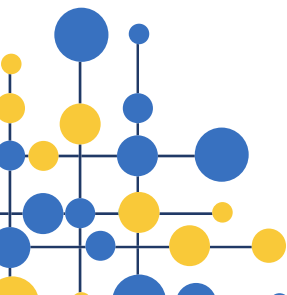
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While there is still much work ahead, I genuinely believe we have made a very positive start to our journey together. We have begun to establish the culture, routines and ambitions that will help every young person flourish, and I am incredibly excited about what we will achieve together when we return in September.

End of Term Arrangements

Students finish for the summer holiday on **Friday 17th July**. The day will include normal lessons alongside end-of-year celebrations and assemblies before students leave school at **2pm**. Breakfast, break and lunchtime food provision will operate as normal before students are dismissed at 2pm. Parents are asked to ensure appropriate arrangements are in place for students to travel home safely.

GCSE Results Day

We would like to wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck as they await their GCSE results. Results will be available for collection from Whitcliffe Mount Academy on **Thursday 20th August 2026 between 9am and 11am**. Staff will be available throughout the morning to celebrate successes, offer advice and guidance, and support students with their next steps, including college enrolment and any queries regarding their results. We look forward to welcoming our Year 11 students back one final time to celebrate everything they have achieved and wish them every success for the exciting future ahead.

New Academic Year - September 2026

We are excited to welcome all students back on **Wednesday 2nd September 2026**. Students should arrive by **8.20am** ready for an important first day, which will include our academy 'Routines Reset', year group assemblies and induction activities before new lessons begin later that morning. Please note that **all** students will be starting at the normal time of 8:20am on Wednesday 2nd September and there will be **no** staggered start for year groups, which has been the case in previous years. Attendance on the first day is essential as we establish expectations and prepare students for a successful year ahead.

The structure of the school day remains unchanged for next year, beginning at **8.30am**, and students should continue to aim to arrive in school by **8.20am** each day, fully equipped and ready to learn.

Uniform Expectations 2026/27

One of the most important ways we establish high standards from the very first day is through our school uniform. We ask all families to ensure that students return in September wearing the correct uniform and ready to represent Whitcliffe Mount with pride.

In particular, I would like to emphasise our expectations regarding school skirts. Skirts must be an appropriate tailored school skirt in line with our uniform policy and of an appropriate length. Please check carefully when purchasing uniform over the summer. Students arriving in skirts that are considered inappropriately short will be required to change into school trousers before attending



lessons. We appreciate your support in helping us avoid unnecessary disruption by ensuring uniform is correct from the first day.

Students should also return with a suitable school bag and be ready to make the most of every learning opportunity from day one. In September we will provide every student with a pencil case containing essential equipment, however, students are expected to be equipped with spare equipment and ready to learn. It is an expectation that students carry their pencil case in their school bag at all times. From September we will no longer be issuing students with a planner. Instead, they will receive a form diary that will remain in their PD form room and will contain all the vital information students require. All students will be provided with a printed copy of their timetable that they can store in either their blazer pocket or their pencil case.

Farewell and Thank You

At the end of this term, we also say goodbye to several valued colleagues who are moving on to new opportunities:

Mrs Pickles (Teacher of English)

Mr Tijou (Teacher of Languages)

Mr Reed (Teacher of Geography)

Mrs Shaw (Teacher of Technology)

Miss Bell (Head of Business and Computing)

Miss Burns-Stowe (Teacher of PE & Child Development)

Mr Shearer (Teacher of Health & Social Care)

Miss Harrison (Teacher of Geography)

On behalf of the whole Whitcliffe Mount community, I would like to thank each of them for their dedication, commitment and service to our students over the years. A special mention goes to both Mr Reed and Mrs Shaw, who between them have provided over 45 years of service to Whitcliffe Mount! Both Mr Reed and Mrs Shaw retire this week, and we wish them every success and happiness in the future.

Finally, I would like to thank every parent and carer for the support you have shown our academy this year. Schools achieve the very best outcomes when we work together, and I am grateful for the encouragement, trust and partnership that so many of you have shown.

To our students, thank you for everything you have contributed this year. I hope you leave for the summer feeling proud of your achievements and excited for what lies ahead.

Have a safe, happy and restful summer with your families. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready to continue building a school where we all strive to **Work Hard, Model Kindness and Aim High.**

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zoe Ali', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Zoe Ali
Headteacher

