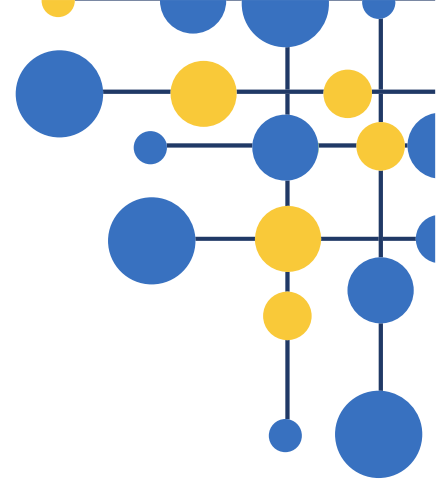




Thursday, 2nd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final few weeks of the academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on what has been a wonderful first five weeks as Headteacher of Whitcliffe Mount Academy.

Firstly, I would like to thank every member of our school community for the incredibly warm welcome I have received. Whether from our students, staff, parents, carers or wider community, I have been overwhelmed by the kindness, encouragement and support shown to me since joining Whitcliffe Mount. It has been a privilege to become part of such a proud community, and I am excited about what we can achieve together.

One of the things that has impressed me most over the past month is how quickly our new WMA values of **Work Hard, Model Kindness and Aim High** are becoming part of everyday life across the academy. I regularly see students and staff demonstrating these values in classrooms, around the school site and within the wider community, and it is fantastic to see so many young people embracing the culture we are continuing to build together.

It has been especially pleasing to celebrate the success of so many of our students through a range of recent reward events. Over the last four weeks, **170 Year 7 students** enjoyed a well-deserved pizza party, while **160 Year 9 students** celebrated learlier this week with an ice cream party in recognition of their excellent conduct, attendance and commitment to our WMA values. These events recognise the vast majority of our students who consistently make positive choices every day, and I look forward to creating many more opportunities to celebrate their achievements.

I would also like to congratulate our **Year 10 students** for the mature and resilient manner in which they approached their recent mock examinations. Despite sitting exams during exceptionally high temperatures, they demonstrated outstanding determination, focus and professionalism. They should be incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves. Year 10 attendance throughout mock exams was exceptional, at 99%. With mock interviews and work experience still to come, the next few weeks continue to be very busy and vitally important for our Year 10 students, and I thank you in advance for continuing to ensure Year 10 engagement and attendance remains just as high over the coming weeks.



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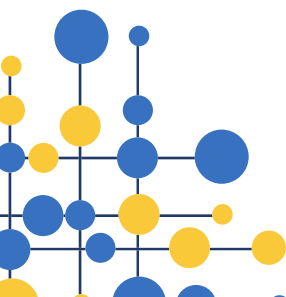
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The recent heatwave presented challenges for everyone, and I would like to sincerely thank parents and carers for your support during this period. Your understanding and cooperation with the temporary adjustments we made to our uniform expectations helped ensure students remained comfortable while continuing to learn safely. Your support made a real difference and was greatly appreciated. Our uniform expectations return to normal from today as temperatures decline, but we will continue to monitor the forecast and should temperatures rise again, we will be in touch regarding any adjustments needed.

Another highlight of the past month was **National Thank a Teacher Day**. The messages we received from parents and carers recognising the dedication of our staff were genuinely humbling. Every message was shared with colleagues, and I know they meant an enormous amount. Our staff work tirelessly every day to provide the very best for our young people, and it was wonderful to see their efforts recognised so warmly by our community. Thank you to everyone who took the time to send a message.

There is still plenty to look forward to before we break for the summer. Today we will enjoy our annual **Sports Day**, which is always one of the highlights of the school calendar, before rounding off the week with our **whole school rewards day on Friday**. Students can look forward to a non-uniform day alongside a range of activities, including inflatables and other exciting rewards, as we celebrate another successful year together.

I am also delighted to share some very encouraging improvements we have seen across the academy over the past four weeks.

Attendance continues to improve, and I am particularly proud that Whitcliffe Mount is currently ranked first across the Trust for attendance during Half Term 6. Every day in school matters, and this improvement reflects the commitment of our students, families and staff to ensuring every child benefits from excellent attendance.

We have also seen significant improvements in behaviour across the academy. Lessons are calmer, more purposeful and more focused on learning than they were just a few weeks ago. Alongside this, lateness to lessons has reduced dramatically following the introduction of our updated behaviour system. Students are arriving to lessons promptly, allowing teachers to maximise learning time and establish positive routines from the very start of each lesson.

These improvements have only been possible because of the partnership between school and home. Thank you for supporting our expectations, reinforcing positive messages with your children and working alongside us to ensure Whitcliffe Mount is a place where every student can flourish. Your support is invaluable and is helping us create the calm, ambitious and respectful culture that all of our young people deserve.

Whilst I am incredibly proud of the progress we have made together in such a short space of time, this is only the beginning. We remain ambitious for every student and every member of our community, and I am excited about the journey ahead as we continue to build a school where every child is inspired to **Work Hard, Model Kindness and Aim High**.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Zoe Ali', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs Zoe Ali
Headteacher

