





Aspiration | Respect | Confidence | Creativity | Resilience



Principal's Notes

Dear Families,

This week marks the conclusion of the Core Subject Mock Exams for our Year 11 students. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and commitment throughout this important period. Art and Textiles mocks will take place next week, followed by Photography mocks the week after. Our teachers will begin marking exams next week, and students can expect to receive their results in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing the progress they have made and are confident that, together, we are on track to achieve our best-ever set of GCSE results!

Alongside the academic focus, this week we have been celebrating Anti-Bullying Week. Mr Salmon delivered powerful assemblies on the importance of kindness and respect, and on Wednesday, students and staff joined the celebration by wearing odd socks - a simple but meaningful way to celebrate individuality and remind ourselves that being different is absolutely okay.

Congratulations also to our Year 7 & 8 girls' netball team on a fantastic win against All Hallows on Monday - it has been great to see their confidence grow!

Today is also the deadline for Student Council applications, as well as applications for Year 7 Silver Ties and Form Leaders. I'm really looking forward to reading through these and seeing the enthusiasm from our students. Next week, Mr Travis (Head of Year 7) and Miss Jones (Assistant Principal) will be interviewing Year 7 students for these roles - an exciting opportunity for them to show their leadership potential.

This morning, I had the pleasure of popping into Year 7's assembly to let them know about a fun reward: Year 7 students who maintain 100% attendance between now and the Christmas break will enjoy a treat - hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows! I can't wait to join them to share this well-deserved treat together.

Finally, we're excited about our Christmas Fair on Tuesday, 9th December. We are also proud to lead our annual Christmas Food Donation appeal. Full details of both are included in this weeks' communication. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards, Claire Coy

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Year 8 Mobile Phone Pouch Rollout Supporting Focused Learning and Academic Excellence

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to remind you about the important change we are introducing for Year 8 students from Thursday 27th November: the use of mobile phone pouches during the school day.

This follows a highly successful rollout with Year 7, where we have seen:

- A more focused and calm learning environment across lessons and social times.
- A significant reduction in unnecessary sanctions related to mobile phone use.
- Students feeling more present and engaged in their learning.

The pouch system allows students to retain their mobile phones throughout the day, but they are securely stored in a locked pouch which cannot be opened until the end of the school day. This means students still have their phones with them for safety and communication before and after school, while ensuring they are not a distraction during learning time.

Why Are We Making This Change?

Recent research supports our approach. Studies show that limiting mobile phone use during the school day can:

- Improve concentration and academic performance, especially for students who find it harder to focus.
- Reduce distractions and multitasking, which are linked to lower test scores and weaker memory.
- Support student wellbeing by reducing exposure to online conflict and social pressures during school hours.

This change is part of our broader commitment to academic excellence. By removing unnecessary distractions, we're creating an environment where every student can focus, engage deeply in learning, and achieve their best. Many other schools have successfully implemented similar mobile phone policies and are seeing positive results.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will my child still have access to their phone in an emergency?

Yes. Students keep their phones with them in the pouch, which is unlocked at the end of the school day. In case of a genuine emergency, staff can unlock the pouch.

Q: What if I need to contact my child during the day?

Please contact the school office as usual. We will ensure any urgent messages are passed on promptly.

Q: Can students use their phones at break or lunch?

No. The pouch remains locked throughout the school day to maintain consistency and reduce distractions.



Q: What happens if a student tampers with the pouch?

Tampering with the pouch will be treated as a behaviour concern. Students are expected to follow the same expectations as Year 7, who have responded very positively.

Q: Is this a permanent change?

We will review the impact regularly, but early evidence from Year 7 and national research suggests this approach is highly beneficial for learning and wellbeing.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours Faithfully,

Nicola Griffith
Vice Principal - Pastoral



PE Lessons during Winter Weather

Dear Families,

As the temperature starts to drop and the winter weather sets in, we want to ensure that all students remain comfortable and prepared during their PE lessons. To help with this, we strongly encourage students to bring additional layers of clothing that will keep them warm while still allowing them to participate fully in activities. Suitable items include base layers, gloves, and warm hats. These can be worn provided they do not restrict movement or impact performance in the activities being taught.

Please note that it remains mandatory for students to wear their official Lowry PE Kit during lessons. This includes either the Lowry t-shirt or ¼ zip top, paired with black shorts, tracksuit bottoms, or sports leggings.

For health and safety reasons, hooded tops, jackets or coats are not permitted during PE lessons, as they can pose risks during physical activity.

Thank you for your support in helping us maintain both health and safety and comfort for all students during the winter season.

Kind regards,

Mr A Riley Head of PE



Christmas Fair - Tuesday 9th December

Dear Families,

We're thrilled to invite you to A Very Lowry Christmas Fair on Tuesday, December 9th (4pm - 6pm).

This will be a festive afternoon of fun, music, performances and Christmas cheer for all students and their families!

Last year's fair was amazing thanks to your generosity, and this year to hit our fundraising target of £1,000 to make Year 11's Leaver Prom a wonderful celebration, we're aiming to make it even more spectacular!

How You Can Spread the Joy

- Donate Raffle Prizes:
 - Boxes of chocolates 🧇
 - Christmas hampers ##
 - Toys & games <ii>iii

 - Vouchers for local shops or experiences

▶ Bric-a-Brac Stall – Perfect for good-as-new treasures such as:

- Unwanted gifts **
- Books & puzzles
- Decorative ornaments &
- Kitchenware

 ■
- Accessories & home décor §

Business Contacts

If you know a local business that could donate a prize for our raffle we'd love to hear from you! Please email ask.lowry@lowryacademy.org.uk

Drop Off Donations:

- · Mrs Jones and Mrs Ruscoe in Safeguarding
- Mrs Smith in G4

Raffle Tickets

If you would like to buy raffle tickets they are 20p each or a £1 for a strip of tickets. You can buy them from Mrs Ruscoe and Mrs Jones in the Safeguarding office or Mrs Smith in G4.

Your kindness will help us create a joyful experience for our students and support our fundraising efforts Thank you for making this season extra special!

Warm festive wishes,

Mrs Smith

Transition and Community Lead



Support our Community - Food Bank Appeal

Dear Families,

As the festive season approaches, we're reminded that Christmas is about more than gifts—it's about kindness, compassion, and community. Sadly, for many families in our area, this time of year brings extra challenges.

We believe no one should feel alone or go without during the holidays. That's why we partner with Community Little Hulton for our annual **Christmas Food Bank Appeal**. This is our chance to come together and make a real difference for those who need it most.

We are asking for your help by donating non-perishable food items (no alcohol or fresh food please).

We kindly ask that make sure items are in-date and suitable for storage. Students can bring donations to their form rooms during registration. They will earn House Points for every item donated and bonus points for forms with the most contributions!

Suggested Items:

- Canned goods (vegetables, beans, soup)
- Pasta, rice, breakfast cereals
- · Tinned meat or fish
- Long-life milk and juice
- Tea, coffee, sugar
- Biscuits and snacks
- Toiletries
- Dog and cat food

Collection: 24th November – 15th December
 Final Donations: Monday 15th December

Every item you give will go directly to families in our local community. Your kindness can bring comfort, hope, and a little joy at a time when it's needed most. Together we can make Christmas brighter for everyone.

Thank you for your support.

Warm regards,

Mrs Smith

Transition and Community Lead



Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?



Free School Meals - your child receives a choice of a meal (hot or cold) each day in school and, for those families who qualify, School Holiday Vouchers.

Benefit-Based Eligibility

You may be eligible if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit, provided your household's net income is no more than £7,400 per year
- Child Tax Credit only (not Working Tax Credit) and your household income is no more than £16,190 per year
- Working Tax Credit run-off
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Council Update

A recent review highlighted that many households may meet the criteria for free school meals but have not yet made an application for one reason or another.

How to Apply:

- Apply online by visiting: <u>www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/</u>
- Go, in person, to the Walkden Gateway Centre (2 Smith Street, Walkden)

Quality of Education

Curriculum Spotlight - MFL



Spanish opens doors to global opportunities: it's spoken by over 500 million people across five continents. Learning Spanish boosts communication, cultural awareness, and career prospects. Learning another language is an opportunity to connect to diverse communities worldwide and become global citizens.

What students are learning this half term



Our KS3 groups have all recently started new topics this half term. Year 7 are currently learning how to talk about their family members and how to describe them. Year 8 are learning how to discuss their hobbies and free time activities, and Year 9 have begun a unit all about describing cities, which will give them an opportunity to learn more about Spanish-speaking areas and how they compare to where they live.

Year 10 are building on their existing knowledge of the topic of family, and delving deeper into relationships with family and friends. Year 11 are at the end of a successful mock exam period where they have had completed Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing exams. We are extremely pleased with how they attempted the papers, and the resilience and ambition shown by many of them.

Why is this important?



KS3 really builds a solid foundation for KS4 Spanish study. Everything our students study at KS3 sets them up to be successful linguists, and our curriculum is designed in a cyclical manner, which allows them to revisit topics throughout their learning journey and all the while build upon them. The topic that Year 7 is currently studying is revisited again in Year 9 and Year 10, the topic that Year 8 is studying is revisited again in Year 10, and Year 9's topic is covered again in Year 11. Each time we revisit a topic, we learn new vocabulary and apply different grammatical concepts, so having a firm understanding supports them to excel in later years.

How you can Support at Home



- Please encourage students to be completing their Languagenut homework (bi-weekly at KS3 and Y10, set weekly in Y11)
- Y10 students have been given revision guides and workbooks, and red vocabulary books. Please ask them how they are using these alongside the revision plan they have been given ahead of their Mid-Year assessments in January.
- Y11 should be using their revision guides and workbooks to address areas that they struggled with in their mock exams.
 Please ask them to show you their completed work.
- To support a Y11 with their speaking skills, offer to listen to them practise their general conversation questions.
- Offer to watch a film/TV programme in Spanish with your child. The language can be easily changed on most streaming platforms.

Fun Spanish Challenge - Ask your Child!



Year 7:

Ask your child to list their family members in Spanish and describe what they look like.

Year 8

Ask your child to tell you their hobbies in Spanish (and to include opinions and reasons).

Year 9

Ask your child about festivals and celebrations in Spanishspeaking countries.

Year 10:

Ask your child to describe their family relationships.

Year 11:

Ask your child to describe a recent day out with their friends.



Enrichment Day: Thursday 27th November

We are excited to share details of our upcoming **Enrichment Day**, taking place on Thursday 27th November 2025. This special day is designed to offer students a rich and varied experience beyond the academic curriculum, helping them to develop the skills, values, and character traits that will support them in school and beyond.

Aims of the Day

The purpose of Enrichment Day is to:

- Enhance our Education with Character programme.
- Provide students with opportunities to explore new interests and talents.
- · Build confidence, creativity, resilience, and teamwork.
- Strengthen relationships and foster a sense of belonging.
- Encourage students to live out our Lowry Academy values: Aspiration, Confidence, Creativity, Resilience and Respect.

The day will begin with a Personal Development session led by form tutors, introducing the concept of Education with Character and its connection to our school values. Throughout the day, students will rotate through four themed enrichment sessions designed to promote personal development and is linked to key virtues such as curiosity, empathy, leadership, and collaboration;

- Creative Arts
- STEM & Technology
- Sports & Physical Activity
- Communication, Culture & Wellbeing

Practical Information

To support participation in physical activities, students must attend school in their **PE kit but must wear their blazer over it** throughout the day. This ensures they are ready for active sessions while maintaining our high standards of presentation.

Year 11 students will follow a separate programme focused on revision, college application and personal wellbeing.

Living Our Values

At The Lowry Academy, we believe that character is not just taught, it is lived. Enrichment Day is a key part of our commitment to helping students "do the right thing," make positive choices, and grow into well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to their communities and flourish in life.

We look forward to a day of energy, engagement, and inspiration. Thank you for your continued support in helping our students thrive.

Education With Character

Celebrating Success this week

House Points Update:

Pankhurst 116,281

Kingsley 117.846

Delaney 116.836

Turing 115.912



Total
Points

1	Golden		
	Tickets		







Bronze

Year 7
117,022
Year 8
108,299
Year 9
72,938
Year 10
85,574
Year 11
83,044

HCKCC3	
Year 7	
1,672	
Year 8	
1,507	
Year 9	
1,206	
Year 10	
792	
Year 11	

lickets	Caras
ear 7	Year 7
1,672	1,495
'ear 8	Year 8
1,507	1,363
ear 9	Year 9
1,206	1,288
ear 10	Year 10
792	1,104
ear 11	Year 11
461	883

Awards
Year 7
1,495
Year 8
1,363
Year 9
1,288
Year 10
1,104
Year 11
883

Total points this year = 466,877

Recent House Events

House Board Games Challenge

This week's house event saw students go head-to-head in our popular board games challenge, competing for valuable house points.

The atmosphere was filled with respect and resilience, as students showed confidence in their strategies, creativity in their gameplay, and a shared sense of aspiration to lead their house to victory.

Activities like these embody our commitment to Education with Character - developing not only academic success but the virtues and skills that help students thrive beyond the classroom.

Students can visit **The Celebration Station** every Tuesday and Thursday to share their fantastic work and collect Golden Tickets.

They can enter our raffle by posting their **Values Cards** in the blue post box to enter every Tuesday and Thursday.

Students can take part in our weekly house events to collect house points.

Education with Character

Celebrating success this week!

Well done to the students below who have attained their Bronze Award this week!

Student	Year	Student	Year
Itohan M	9	Adiya E	7
Iva J	7	Jayden M	7
King N	8	Heloiza A	8
Annabella E	8	Alexis G	10
Martha 0	9	Rosie R	7
Sienna H	7	Amy K	8
Fleurrette W	8	Kevin N	8
Michelle 0	8	Sonny H	7

Congratulations to the top 20 students below who are close to achieving their Bronze

Award - 1,000 points needed to reach Bronze!



Student	Year	Points	Points to Bronze Award
Sophia W	7	991	9
Naomi W N	9	979	21
George M	8	972	28
Amelia T	8	972	28
Christopher R P	8	960	40
Roaa M	7	943	57
Manha B	7	942	58
Henry S	10	930	70
Kokob K S	8	929	71
Libby S	9	923	77
Mariarma G	9	922	78
Isabelle C	7	921	79
Lolly M	11	921	79
Keven T	10	920	80
Ching Nam C	8	919	81
Clinton L	8	919	81
Oliver N	7	919	81
Ksawery P	7	919	81
Khloe A	10	917	83
Nicola K	10	914	86

Upcoming House Events







Key Stage 3 - Mid-Year Assessments

Mid-Year Assessments: How to Help at Home

At the start of this week, students have begun their six week revision in preparation for our Mid-Year Assessments for Key Stage 3:

www.lowryacademy.org.uk/students/mid-year-assessments



Revision Planner

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9am							
10am							
11am						Science tuniquiting	
12pm						biel	
1pm							
2pm							Maties Aligebra
3pm							Code Miss
4pm						Cinena	MOYO
5pm				Noinne Net			
6pm				1.52			
7pm	Ataries Algebra	English	Matiks ALopiwa		PIZZA		
8pm	MEN, MESS MESS	Sinellar	MP95, MSSE, M4EX		HIGHT FAMILY		
9pm					TUME		



To help plan your child's weekly revision, a useful 'revision planner' has been included in the back of their revision booklet.



There is a separate page for each week of their revision.

Using the revision topics listed for Maths, English and Science that are listed in the booklet, ensure your child is mapping out when they are intending to complete their revision for these topics throughout the week using the planner. You can support your child with their revision by encouraging them to follow their revision plan throughout the week.

They may need some support with this process initially.

How can you Help? Encourage your Child to:

- Prioritise topics: identify weakest topics and areas that need the most work and allocate more time to them.
- **Break it down:** divide revision time into small, manageable chunks. Focusing on one topic at a time improves knowledge retention.
- **Schedule breaks:** Plan regular short breaks to rest and recharge. This improves concentration and prevents burnout.

Key Stage 3 - Revision Topics

Year 7		Weeklu			
Subject Topics to Revise		Links to Revision Resources			
English	Sentence Structure and key terms.	Year 7 Mid-Year Revision Booklet			
Maths	Introduction to Algebra	SPARX Code: M106, M830, M813, M795, M531, M417, M327, M208, M979			
Science	Biology (7.03) Cells, tissues, and organs. Revise the different cell organelles and their functions; differences between plants and animal cells; specialised cells.	UL Curriculum Pupil Website Animal Cells https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118276 Plant Cells https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118262 Comparing Animal and Plant Cells https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118285 Specialised Cells https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118290 SPARX codes Introduction to cells - F739 Parts of an animal cell - F612 Parts of a plant cell - F516 Comparing plant and animal cells - F893 Specialised cells - F455 Y7 Knowledge organiser Pages 24 and 25; sections 1, 2, and 4.			

Year 8				
Subject	Topics to Revise	Links to Revision Resources		
English	Sentence Structure and key terms.	Year 8 Mid-Year Revision Booklet		
Maths	Rounding	SPARX Codes: M111, M431, M994, M131, M878		
Science	Biology (8BD) Digestion Nutrition, food tests and energy. Revise the different nutrients, why they're needed in the body and good food sources of each; effects on the body of too much or too little energy from foods and different energy demands of different people.	UL Curriculum Pupil Website Healthy Diet 1 https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118803 Healthy Diet 2 https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118807 Unhealthy Diet https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118810 SPARX codes Roles of food types - F550 A healthy diet - F605 Diet and obesity - F690 Y8 Knowledge organiser Page 25 and 26 of the knowledge organiser; sections 1 and 2, 4, 5 and 7.		

Key Stage 3 - Revision Topics

Year 9		Weekly
Subject	Topics to Revise	Links to Revision Resources Weekly Reminders
English	Revise the characterisation of Reverend Hale. Revise how to create a successful Argument One paragraph	UL Pupil facing curriculum: Lesson Four: Characterisation of Reverend Hale https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=121529 Booklet to be given out in lesson.
Maths	Related Calculations	SPARX Code: U735
Science	Biology (9BP) Plants and Photosynthesis Revise structure and function of the leaf, adaptations of leaves and root cells for photosynthesis.	UL Curriculum Pupil Website The Roots https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118936 The leaf https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118948 Rate of photosynthesis RP https://curriculum.unitedlearning.org.uk/Pupil?r=118943 SPARX codes: Photosynthesis - F281 Adaptations of leaves for photosynthesis - F111 Practical: Photosynthesis - R248 Y9 Knowledge organiser Pages 23; sections 1 - 4

Don't Forget - Mid-Year Assessment Dates:

Subject	Week Beginning
English	12 th January 2026
Maths	12th/19 th January 2026
Science	5th/12th/19 th January 2026



Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of the following dates, further information will be sent to families closer to specific events:

Date(s)	Relevant to	Event
Monday 24 th November - Wednesday 3 rd December	Year 11	Art, Textiles & Photography Exams
Thursday 27 th November	All Families	Enrichment Day - Education with Character
Wednesday 3 rd December	All Families	Author in School - James Campbell
Thursday 4 th December	Year 11	Parents Evening
Friday 5 th December	All Families	INSET Day - School closed to students
Monday 8 th December	All Families	Nurses in School - Flu Vaccinations
Tuesday 9 th December	All Families	Christmas Fair 4pm - 6pm
Friday 19 th December	All Families	Last Day of Term - Students Finish at 12pm

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Please see below for a local even this weekend at Blackleach Country Park, Walkden:

Saturday 22nd November, 2025 12:00pm - 04:00pm Blackleach Country Park John Steet, Manchester M28 3TD

Meet with the Little Hulton neighbourhood team, there will be various Police vehicles old and new, activities for children, Story time and some free goodies Lots of photo opportunities....

Come and Join us! Follow us on face book Salford Police—GMP

