



Principal's Notes

Dear Families,

I trust this letter finds you well. Welcome to this week's Principal's Notes. Next week you will receive our first whole school newsletter of 2024. It's been a cold week and I've reminded many children of the importance of wearing a coat to school.

This week, we began our Mid-Year Assessments. They play a key part in our understanding of how much progress students have made (it tells us what they do and don't understand and how we can support them in the second half of the year). Please do try and make sure your child is in school for them. Attendance is so important and particularly at assessment and exam time. I know that you will know about the significant correlation between absence and exam results. Put simply, students who miss school regularly, achieve lower grades which is likely to reduce their lifetime earning potential because they achieve worse exam results than their peers.

As headteacher, and also a parent, I understand how difficult it can be at this time of year, when coughs and colds are prevalent, to get your child into school. Please be reassured that if your child is too ill to stay in school, we will contact you and send them home. Often children can wake up feeling unwell in the morning but quickly recover later on in the day and are fine to complete the day in school. I'm certain by now you will have received many messages about the importance of attendance. I don't wish to bombard you with another, simply to say that we will work with you to support regular attendance to school. Please do send them in to school.

Finally, I invite you to stay connected with us on Twitter. By following our account [@AcademyLowry](#), you can stay updated with photos and highlights of the exciting events and activities taking place within the school throughout the week.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Warm regards,
Claire Coy



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WEEKLY COMMUNICATION TO FAMILIES CONTENT LIST

Date: Friday 19th January, 2024

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Dear Parent / Carer

Your child's Mid-Year Assessment Results

This week has seen the start of our Mid-Year Assessments for students in years 7 to 10. I am pleased to report that a large number of students from all year groups have been attending their 8am booster sessions, for final 'exam top tips' before they sit their exams. In addition, the behaviour and overall conduct of our students when during exams has been absolutely superb. We are very proud of our students hard-work, maturity and dedication.

May I also thank you for your support during this assessment period. Together, we are helping your child to achieve more each day.

Once your child's assessments have been marked by their teachers, we will produce a summary report that will summarise their performance.

Copies of these results will be available to you:

- **Year 10 Results:** collect on arrival* at Year 10 Parents Evening (Thursday 8th February 2024)
- **Year 9 Results:** collect on arrival* at Year 9 Parents Evening (Thursday 15th February 2024)
- **Year 7 & 8 Results:** these will be sent to you by email or by post the week beginning 11th March 2024

*if you are unable to attend your child's parents evening, we will arrange for a copy of their results to be sent to you by email or by post.

We are also using this reporting window to launch a new way to inform you of your child's progress, based on their Mid-Year Assessment results (for students in years 7/8/9). I will shortly be sending to you an explanation about the new report and how to understand what it is telling you about your child's progress.

Once again, thank you for your support and helping your child to prepare for and take part in their Mid-Year Assessments, and I look forward to sharing their results with you over the forthcoming weeks.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Samantha Wells
Assistant Principal (Assessment Data and Interventions)



Ref: 002/Sparx

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Both the Maths department and the English department have commenced setting online homework using Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader.

There are many advantages for pupils in completing homework on a regular basis. Eg:-

- homework is beneficial because it can be great for helping students get through their required coursework and reinforce required knowledge;
- Homework provides spaced repetition for long-term memorisation;
- Homework improves student achievement;
- It also reduces screentime and can promote good habits and discipline.

Furthermore, it is important that students read for a minimum of thirty minutes a week on Sparx reader. Evidence suggests that students who read every day not only perform better in reading tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, better comprehension and are more likely to develop their critical thinking skills.

Here at the Lowry Academy, we welcome your full support in ensuring all pupils complete their homework on time and to a 100% successful completion rate.

Homework is set on Friday by both subjects with an expected completion date of the following Friday. Therefore, providing ample opportunities for Pupils to complete.

The Academy also provides opportunities for homework completion every day at break, lunch and after school in L8 where pupils will have the full support of both Maths and English staff, plus a full use of computers. All pupils are expected to have achieved their 100% by 4.00pm the following Friday.

This term and continuing forward, The Lowry Academy will be asking pupils who have not completed either homework to complete a compulsory Sparx detention on Monday (Years 7 & 9) or Tuesday (Years 8 & 10) night afterschool for no longer than 45mins. If a student is unable to attend Monday, then there will be further compulsory Sparx detention on Wednesday, which again will be no longer than 45mins. Again, please may we ask for your full support thus providing your child the best opportunities in the future.

All students have had the opportunity to log onto both Sparx Maths and Sparx Reader. However, if any pupils need further support logging into either of these platforms, or as parent/carer you have any questions regarding Sparx, then please do not hesitate to email me at the following email address.

michael.mcguinness@lowryacademy.org.uk

On behalf of the Academy, we welcome your full support in ensuring that all students succeed at the Lowry Academy.

Best regards,

Michael McGuinness (Lead Practitioner for Maths)



Ref: 003/Drop-ins

Dear Families

I hope this letter finds you well.

Recently I've been reflecting on the importance of effective communication between home and school. To foster this essential partnership, I've decided to introduce parent drop in sessions where you can meet with me, the Principal. These sessions are designed to provide an opportunity for parents to share their thoughts, concerns, and ideas with us.

Our goal is to ensure that every student receives the best possible education and support. By creating a space for open dialogue, we can work together to identify and address any challenges. Your insights and feedback are invaluable in helping us continually improve and adapt our educational programs to meet the diverse needs of our students.

The drop-in sessions will take place on the following dates:

Session 2: Wednesday 24th January, 2024 1130 – 1315

Session 3: Wednesday 6th March, 2024 0915 - 1100

These sessions will be held in the school canteen, and refreshments will be provided. Whether you have questions about our curriculum, concerns about your child's progress, or simply wish to get to know the school's leadership better, we welcome you to join us at your convenience during these times.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet with you during these drop-in sessions. Your feedback and involvement are crucial to our shared mission of providing the best possible education for your child.

If you have any specific questions or would like to discuss any matters in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact my PA Mrs Duffy bev.duffy@lowryacademy.org.uk , who will arrange an appointment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Claire Coy
Principal



Financial Support available for parents and families

The Household Support Fund is available now until 31st March 2024 and can support Salford residents with food, fuel and energy costs. The funding does not impact on any other benefits individuals may receive, and if individuals have applied in previous rounds of the Household Support Fund, they may still be eligible for further help.

Find out more and apply for support today at: www.salford.gov.uk/hsf





OPEN EVENTS 2023/24

WE ARE A CENTRE OF
EXCELLENCE FOR A LEVELS,
VOCATIONAL A LEVELS AND
MIXED PROGRAMMES

**SATURDAY
7 OCTOBER 2023**
Open Day
10.30am - 1.30pm

**WEDNESDAY
22 NOVEMBER 2023**
Open Evening
5.30pm - 7.30pm

**TUESDAY
23 JANUARY 2024**
Open Evening
5.30pm - 7.30pm



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Scan the QR code or visit:
www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk

#B6Ready

For advice or guidance call **0800 052 1460** or visit www.bolton-sfc.ac.uk

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Diary dates

Please make a note of the following dates:

Date(s)	Relevant to	Event
Monday 22 nd – Tuesday 23 rd January	Year 7, 8, 9	Mid Year Assessments
Monday 22 nd – Friday 26 th January	Whole School	Interhouse Competition Week – Science Values: Respect - Holocaust Memorial Day
Wednesday 25 th January	Whole School	Drop-in Sessions with the Principal 11:30am – 1:15pm
Friday 26 th January	Whole School	Staff INSET Day – School closed to Students
Thursday 9 th February	Year 9	Nurses in School – DTP/Men ACWY Immunisation catch ups
Thursday 8 th February	Year 10	Parents Evening
Thursday 15 th February	Year 9	Parents Evening
Friday 16 th February	Whole School	Finish at 3pm for Half-term
Monday 26 th February	Whole School	Return to School

