

Our Ref: JP/JAS

19<sup>th</sup> May 2025



**Wednesfield Academy**  
[www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk](http://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk)

Dear Parent/Carer

I'm writing to you to inform you of some important updates. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's House or Sixth Form Office, or email [postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk](mailto:postbox@wednesfieldacademy.co.uk).

### **Memorial Service and Fly-Past for Lancaster Bomber Crash**

We would like to draw your attention to the recent memorial service and fly-past held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025, in Wednesfield. This significant event commemorated the 80th anniversary of a Lancaster bomber crash. The poignant occasion saw veterans, civic dignitaries, and relatives of the crew gather for a service at 11.00 am, followed by a fly-over by one of the two remaining Lancaster bombers in the UK. This event profoundly honoured the crew members who lost their lives in Wednesfield. A special thank you goes out to all our cadets and their parents for their invaluable support with this event. Your participation and dedication are a credit to the school and the community.

### **School Meal Cost**

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025, the cost of a school meal will increase from £2.40 to £2.80. This decision has not been made lightly by Matrix Academy Trust, and I want to assure you that we have done everything possible to absorb rising costs for as long as we can. We have not increased our meal prices since 2023. However, due to significant increases in the cost of food, staffing expenses, and national insurance contributions, it is unfortunately no longer sustainable for us to maintain the current price. Our commitment remains to providing nutritious, high-quality, and balanced meals for all our pupils. This necessary adjustment will help us to continue to meet the standards that you and your children expect and deserve. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

### **Matrix Academy Trust Awards Evening**

I would also like to extend my sincere congratulations to all the pupils who received awards at the Matrix Academy Trust Awards Evening last week and the fantastic performance from Kye Pearson and Millie Rowton. It was a truly inspiring event, celebrating the outstanding achievements and talents of pupils from across the Trust. Your hard work, dedication, and resilience are a testament to our shared values, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of you. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended to support our wonderful pupils.

### **Academy Newsletter**

Please note that due to this being a very short four-week half term, we will not be publishing a newsletter. However, we are planning a bumper newsletter for the next half term, filled with all the latest news, achievements, and updates from the school. If your child does an activity outside of school and you would like the school to include this in the next newsletter then we would be very proud to do so, so please send the relevant information via email into Postbox or tell your child's House or Sixth Form Office.



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Lichfield Road  
Wednesfield  
Wolverhampton  
West Midlands  
WV11 3ES



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### Water Safety

With half term and warmer weather approaching, it is vital that all pupils understand the dangers of open water and do not swim in areas they should not. Tragically, lives are lost each year in unsupervised open water such as canals, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, of which the West Midlands has a lot. These environments can hide strong currents, unseen hazards, and dangerously cold temperatures, even on warm days, leading to cold water shock which can severely impact swimming ability.

We strongly advise against swimming in any unmanaged or unsupervised bodies of water. For comprehensive water safety advice, you can refer to guidance West Midlands Fire Service, who we work closely with as a school, and they have delivered talks to the pupils ([Water safety - West Midlands Fire Service](#)).

### Key Information for Revision and Examinations

We are committed to supporting your child's academic success, and our website also hosts valuable resources to aid their revision. You can find revision guides, top tips for effective studying, and links to useful external resources within our Curriculum pages and sometimes within the Parents or News and Events sections ([Revision Resources - Wednesfield Academy](#)). We encourage you to explore these to help your child prepare for assessments and excel in their studies.

We have been incredibly impressed with the mature and dedicated conduct of our Year 11 and Year 13 students during their recent examination periods. Their focus and commitment have been exemplary, and they have represented Wednesfield Academy with great credit. We also extend our sincere thanks to all parents and carers for ensuring your children have attended their examinations promptly and prepared.

For our younger year groups, it is never too early to understand the expectations for formal examinations. The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) sets out the rules and regulations that all students must adhere to during examinations. Familiarising yourselves with these guidelines now can help reduce anxiety and ensure a smooth experience when your child reaches their own examination seasons. You can find key information for candidates on the JCQ website, which outlines what is expected during written examinations, coursework, and non-examination assessments, here: [Information for Candidates Documents](#). This guidance is essential for understanding permitted items, prohibited items, and general conduct within the examination hall.

Finally, for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, we strongly encourage attendance at any revision sessions that have been scheduled for the upcoming **May half term**. These targeted sessions are designed to provide crucial support and will significantly help in their final preparations.

### Attendance Policy and Term-Time Holidays

Regular and punctual attendance is crucial for your child's success and progress at Wednesfield Academy. With summer approaching we felt it is necessary to include in this letter that our comprehensive **Attendance Policy** is available on our website, under the 'Parents' section, which outlines our expectations and procedures for managing pupil attendance. I must also reiterate our position, in line with Department for Education (DfE) and Local Government guidance from Wolverhampton City Council, that **holidays during term time will not be authorised**. We have consistently communicated this important information to all parents and carers. Absence from school, even for a short period, can have a significant impact on a child's learning and continuity of education. You can find further details on school attendance guidance from the Department for Education here: [School attendance and absence](#) and from Wolverhampton City Council here: [School attendance](#). We urge all parents to schedule holidays during the designated school breaks to ensure your child's continuous education.



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### **Academic Year Calendar Change**

As referenced in our last whole school letter, there has been a change to the academic year calendar for the upcoming year. We want to reiterate that this change was implemented by **Wolverhampton Local Authority** and not by Wednesfield Academy. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we adapt to these adjustments.

In addition to this, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025 will be Inset days where the school is just open to staff, and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 the school will just be open to Year 7 and 12 for their induction. This is the same arrangement as took place this academic year.

### **Our Academy Website: Your Information Hub**

Here is a quick (not exhaustive) guide to some of the key sections and information you can expect to find on our website, along with their direct links:

- **Letters Home:** All important communications, announcements, and general letters sent to parents can be found here. <https://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk/parents/letters-home/>
- **Curriculum:** Detailed information about the subjects your child will be studying, our curriculum intent, and how we deliver a broad and balanced education. You will find specifics for each key stage, including subject-specific information. <https://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk/curriculum/>
- **Pastoral Care and Support:** Information on how we support our students' well-being, including details on our pastoral team, safeguarding procedures, and SENCO contact information. <https://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk/pastoral-care-support/>
- **Parents:** This section is specifically for you, where you will find term dates, uniform information, our policies, and details on how to get involved in school life. <https://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk/parents/>
- **News and Events:** Stay up to date with the latest Wednesfield Academy news, upcoming events, pupil achievements, and important announcements. <https://www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk/news-events/>

Our website is regularly updated to ensure you have the most current information. Finally, if your child is in Years 7-10 please ensure they have signed up for the activity they want to join during **Discovery Week** (more information can be found on this letter sent to parents - [Discovery-Week-Letter-LH2024.pdf](#)).

Thank you for your continued support and please just let us know if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully



Mr Phillips  
Headteacher

Remember to follow us on social media.

Facebook: <https://bit.ly/3pV9Fhm>

Twitter: <https://bit.ly/43tYv0J>

Instagram: <https://bit.ly/3OmrBEP>



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