Our Ref: JP/JAS/Aut2

2nd November 2026

Wednesfield Academy
www.wednesfieldacademy.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your families had a restful half term and that the new term has started well. As we begin the second half of the autumn term, I wanted to share some important updates with you.

## School Food Costs

From Monday 9th November 2026, the price of a school meal will increase from £2.80 to £3.00. The same percentage increase will also be applied to the other items available on the school menu, including food available at breaktime. There will be no additional cost for pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals. They will continue to receive their allocated school meal at no extra cost.

We have not taken this decision lightly. Like many organisations, the school has experienced significant increases in food and staffing costs. We have worked hard to absorb these increases and have not increased the cost of school food in previous years despite significant inflationary pressures. In order to continue providing the same quality of meals for our pupils, it is now necessary to make this adjustment. We remain committed to ensuring that pupils have access to balanced and good-quality food throughout the school day, and this increase will help us to maintain the standards that pupils and parents expect from us. Thank you for your understanding.

## Friday 6th November 2026 – Drop-Down Day

On Friday 6th November 2026, all pupils will take part in a special drop-down day. The school day will run at the normal times, but pupils will take part in a range of activities, talks and sessions designed to develop their personal safety, wellbeing, confidence and preparation for their future. Different year groups will have different programmes, including sessions on:

- Personal safety
- Fire and firework safety
- First aid
- Safety in unfamiliar settings
- Choices and consequences
- Preparing for work experience
- Study skills
- Employability and future pathways
- Confidence and resilience
- Positive habits in preparation for examinations
- Next steps beyond school

Year 11 pupils will take part in The Final Push with Humanutopia, focusing on confidence, overcoming barriers, employability, future aspirations and making positive changes as they approach their GCSE examinations. We are looking forward to what promises to be a valuable and engaging day for all of our pupils.

## Wednesfield Sixth Form Open Evening

We are particularly keen to see as many of our Year 11 pupils and their families as possible at our Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 17th November 2026, from 5.00 to 7.00pm. We are very proud of Wednesfield Sixth Form and the opportunities we provide for students after Year 11. Last year, our students achieved an average A-Level grade of B, and our Sixth Form offers high-quality teaching alongside excellent support from dedicated staff.

For students considering their next steps after Year 11, the evening will provide an excellent opportunity to find out more about the courses available, meet staff and consider what Wednesfield Sixth Form could offer them. Further information, including our prospectus, can be found on the Sixth Form section of our website - https://wednesfieldacademy.com/sixth-form/.

## Celebrating Our Pupils

One of the things that makes Wednesfield Academy such a special school is the range of achievements of our pupils, both inside and outside the classroom. If you did not see the Praise Bulletin sent out during the final week before half term, please take a look at the attachment. We are incredibly proud of what our pupils have achieved and grateful to the staff who provide so many additional opportunities beyond the normal school day. There are so many talented pupils within our school community. If you have sent us an achievement about your child which has not yet appeared in the bulletin, please do not worry as we will look to include it in a future edition. Please keep sending us your child's achievements.

## Benedict's Law – Dietary and Allergy Information

There are still a small number of parents who have not completed the Benedict's Law information for their child. It is crucial that we have this information as soon as possible. Accurate dietary and allergy information is an important part of keeping pupils safe and ensuring that we have the information we need when planning activities, trips and school provision. If you have not yet completed the form, please do so as soon as possible using the link - Matrix Academy Trust - Pupil Dietary and Allergies Update (Benedicts Law 2026) -Wednesfield.

## Reporting Absence and Communicating with School

Thank you to everyone who continues to communicate with us and provide important information about your child. Please remember that absence can be reported directly through the WeDuc app, including before the school telephone lines open. Please ensure that:

- Absence is reported every day, including for consecutive days.
- Supporting evidence can be attached directly through the app.
- A full reason for absence is provided rather than simply stating "illness".
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When contacting the school through the Wednesfield Postbox, please include your child's first name, surname, and form. This allows us to identify your child quickly and respond to your enquiry without unnecessary delay.

**Important Dates**
Please make a note of the following dates:

- Friday 6th November 2026 – Drop-Down Day
- Friday 13th November 2026 – Early closure for moderation afternoon. School will close to pupils at 12.40pm.
- Tuesday 17th November 2026 – Sixth Form Open Evening, 5.00 –7.00pm
- Friday 27th November 2026 – Staff Training Day. Pupils do not attend school.
- Friday 18th December 2026 – Last day of term. This will be a half day.
- Tuesday 5th January 2027 – School reopens to pupils following the Christmas holiday.

Please continue to refer to the school calendar for further dates and events throughout the term - https://wednesfieldacademy.com/calendar/.

Finally, thank you again for your continued support of Wednesfield Academy. We are extremely proud of the pupils in our school and of the opportunities, support and experiences that our staff provide for them each day. The partnership between school and home is an important part of ensuring that every pupil can thrive, and we greatly appreciate the positive contribution that parents and carers make to our school community.

We look forward to another successful half term.

Yours faithfully



Mr Phillips
Headteacher

Remember to follow us on social media.
Facebook: https://bit.ly/3pV9Fhm
Instagram: https://bit.ly/3OmrbEP