



Message from Kate Heaton, Principal

Welcome Back to School!

We are absolutely delighted to welcome all our families, students, and parents back to school for what promises to be a fantastic year ahead.

From the very first day, the atmosphere across our school has been calm, purposeful, and full of positive energy. Our learning environment is already buzzing with curiosity and focus, and it's been truly heartening to see how warmly our students have embraced new staff members - showing kindness, respect, and a genuine sense of community. It's a powerful reminder of what makes our school so special.



We are also entering an exciting chapter for our school facilities. In just about a week's time, we will be opening our brand-new MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area), complete with a large, sheltered seating area alongside - a perfect space for social connection. This is just the beginning: we are hopeful that further projects will be underway this year, including refurbished toilets in two areas of the school, two additional smaller MUGA pitches, and the construction of a new building for our Resourced Provision. Once completed, this will also create space for a much-needed additional car park on site.

Following an exceptional set of results this summer, we are more inspired than ever by what our students and staff can achieve together. Our community continues to work with passion, unity, and ambition - driven by a shared belief that we can become one of the very best schools in the country. With exciting developments ahead and a strong foundation of care and excellence, the future is bright and full of possibility.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the school gates, Parents Evenings or one of the many school events over the Autumn Term. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can be of any assistance.

Mrs K Heaton
Principal

Parents' Evening Dates

Please find details of our Parents' Evenings this academic year, all face to face and on the school site. These provide the opportunity for you to talk to your child's teachers about their personal development and academic progress.

- Year 7 – Thursday 8 January 2026
- Year 8 - Thursday 23 April 2026
- Year 9 - Thursday 12 February 2026
- Year 10 – Thursday 7 May 2026
- Year 11 - Thursday 11 December 2025
- Year 12 - Thursday 27 November 2025
- Year 13 - Thursday 6 November 2025 and Thursday 13 March 2026

Please also be reminded of the following important dates:

- Year 9 Options Evening - Thursday 29 January 2026
- Year 12 Induction Evening - Thursday 18 September 2025

Curriculum Focus

Computer Science

The Computing Department is excited to welcome our new Year 7 students to the world of technology. This year, our youngest learners are starting their journey by focusing on important skills for staying safe online. This foundation in online safety will empower them to navigate the digital world with confidence and responsibility, setting the stage for a successful year ahead.

We are also thrilled to see a growing number of girls choosing to study Computer Science in Year 10. This positive trend reflects our ongoing commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion within the subject. It is encouraging to see more female students exploring and excelling in this field, and we look forward to supporting their continued success.

We are also delighted to welcome Mr Adenusi to our department. His arrival has brought a fresh wave of enthusiasm, and it is clear students are thoroughly enjoying his lessons. With his engaging teaching style and deep knowledge of the subject, Mr Adenusi has created an interactive and inspiring learning environment where complex concepts are made accessible, and curiosity is encouraged. We look forward to many more exciting lessons under his guidance!



Lastly, we are incredibly proud of the students who completed their A-Level Computer Science last year, achieving the best results the department has seen to date. Their hard work, dedication, and passion for the subject were key to their outstanding success. These exceptional results reflect not only their commitment, but also the high-quality teaching and support they received throughout their studies. As a department, we could not be prouder of their achievements and look forward to seeing them take the next steps in their academic and professional journeys, with 80% of our Year 13 students stepping into the field of Computer Science, Cybersecurity, AI, Software development and degree apprenticeships.

Sixth Form Focus

We celebrated some fantastic results this summer and waved students off to begin their chosen destinations. These varied from 2 students studying Engineering and Medicine respectively at The University of Cambridge to apprenticeships at The University of Exeter. We had great success with our Medics and we couldn't be prouder of all our students. Our new year 13 students have returned with a clear focus and drive to achieve the best A Level results possible. Year 13 made a great start at the end of Year 12 on their UCAS applications and we will continue to support students this term to complete and submit applications for their next stages.

We have also welcomed our new Year 12s into the Sixth Form and we are pleased they have settled in so well. We are incredibly excited to be part of their journey for the next two years and to help them achieve fantastic results. The Year 12 Induction Evening on Thursday 18 September will be a great opportunity for parents of our new Year 12 students to come and meet the sixth form team and find out what the next two years will look like.



Personal Development

WHGS School Pantry – Supporting Our Families

We are delighted to announce that, once again this academic year, William Hulme's Grammar School will continue to receive a fortnightly food delivery on Tuesday afternoons, starting this week. Through our School Pantry, a selection of food items and toiletries will be shared and distributed free of charge to families across all phases of our school who may benefit from this additional support. If you would like to access the pantry, simply visit the Main Reception (Secondary Phase) during school hours and quote "school pantry." Our Reception team will collect the available grocery items for you to take home. Please remember to bring your own bag.

World Afro Day - Celebrating Identity & Heritage

On Monday 15 September, WHGS will be coming together as a whole school to celebrate World Afro Day. This global event highlights and embraces the beauty, versatility, and cultural significance of Afro-textured hair. Staff and students are invited to attend school with Afro-styled hair (if able to) as an expression of pride and solidarity. The day serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of representation, challenging stereotypes, and promoting self-confidence. At WHGS, we are proud to create spaces where individuality is celebrated, diversity is championed, and every student feels seen and valued.



Harvest Appeal - Supporting Our Community

In recognition of Harvest, WHGS is once again supporting Manchester South Central Foodbank by collecting food donations from now until Wednesday 1 October 2025. Harvest is a time of gratitude, reflection, and giving, and our donations will help families in Hulme, Moss Side, Whalley Range, and Old Trafford who may be experiencing hardship. We welcome contributions of tinned goods, cereals, pasta, rice, and other non-perishable items. All donations should be handed into the Secondary Phase Reception. Together, we can make a real difference by supporting those in need within our local community.

Black History Month and Culture Day

Throughout October 2025, WHGS will proudly celebrate Black History Month, recognising the remarkable achievements, rich culture, and lasting contributions of Black people throughout history and today. A series of exciting events will take place across the month, including:

- Special Menus every Friday in the canteen.
- A Black History Month Launch on Wednesday 1 October with performances travelling through each phase.
- Black History Assemblies delivered throughout the month.
- Our Whole School Culture Day on Wednesday 22 October 2025.

For Culture Day, students and staff are invited to attend school in Cultural Dress or clothing that represents their identity. A special cultural menu will also be served, and to support our fundraising efforts for the Greater Manchester Youth Network (a charity that empowers young people, particularly those facing disadvantage or with additional needs), we will be collecting donations on arrival at school and hosting a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale (£1 each).

Finally, on Friday 24 October, we will end the half-term with a vibrant morning of music, celebration, and cultural pride. Thank you for supporting us as we continue to promote diversity, inclusion, and community at WHGS.

Key Updates

Learning Habits

This year, we are excited to share that we have launched **five key learning habits** with pupils across the Secondary Phase. These habits are designed to strengthen focus, resilience and independence in learning - ensuring every student is equipped to thrive both in and beyond the classroom.

The five habits are:

1. **Attendance and Punctuality** – Students attend school and lessons on time.
2. **Uniform and Equipment** – Students wear perfect uniform and have all their equipment ready to learn.
3. **On-Task** – Students are focused and on task in every lesson and around school, even when no one is watching.
4. **Positive Response** – Students respond courteously and are obviously polite to all members of our school community.
5. **Homework and Deadlines** – Students complete all their homework to the best of their ability and hand it in on time.

Learning Habits

Students who are successful always:

-  **Learning Habit 1: Punctuality and Attendance**
 - Attend school and all lessons on time.
-  **Learning Habit 2: Perfect Dress Code and Equipment**
 - Wear perfect uniform and have all their equipment ready to learn.
-  **Learning Habit 3: On-Task Behaviour**
 - Behave on task in every lesson and around school, even when no one is watching.
-  **Learning Habit 4: Positive Response**
 - Respond courteously and are obviously polite to all members of the school community.
-  **Learning Habit 5: Homework and Deadlines**
 - Complete all homework to the best of their ability and hand it in on time.

These habits are being embedded daily through consistent routines, modelling and praise. Our aim is to make them second nature so that students carry them out automatically, creating a calm, purposeful learning environment where everyone can succeed.

Detentions

To support our high expectations and consistent learning culture, we have introduced a clear consequence system linked to our five key learning habits. If a student breaks one of these habits, they will receive a 50-minute detention the following day. This allows us to reinforce the importance of ambition, respect and compassion in all aspects of the school life. It is essential that students attend these detentions, as they provide an opportunity to reflect, reset and ensure learning remains uninterrupted for all. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a calm and purposeful environment.

Uniform (and PE)

Students are allowed to come in to school in their PE kit if they have a timetabled PE lesson that day. Most students have done well with this and we appreciate their efforts in meeting expectations. As a reminder, hoodies of any kind, even branded ones, are not permitted as part of the PE uniform. Students must wear the official WHGS joggers or leggings along with the WHGS zip top.

If a student does not have the correct branded PE kit, they should attend school in their standard uniform and will be given time to change for PE. Maintaining consistency in uniform helps reinforce our high standards and ensures all students feel part of our school community.



Enrichment Timetables

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School				
			WHGS Vocalists Year 8 to 13 M1	Lower School Vocals Year 7 to 8 M1
Lunch				
Table Tennis Years 10 & 11 Activity Studio (PMA)	Film Club (Invite Only) Z7 (FK)	Computing Club Years 7 to 9 S6	DJ Club All Welcome M1	
Computing Club Years 7 to 9 S6	Guitar Group All Guitarists Welcome M1	Girls Football All Welcome Sports Hall	Debate Club Year 12 & 13 M12	
Book Club Sixth Form M11 *Once a month (MSW)	Table Tennis Years 7 to 9 Activity Studio (AJR)		MEDSOC Year 12 & 13 M6	
	Maths Club All Welcome D28 (MJM)			

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School				
Homework Club All Welcome LS Intervention Room	Homework Club All Welcome LS Intervention Room	Boys Football Year 11 Astro (MRH)	Homework Club All Welcome LS Intervention Room	Chemistry Club Year 12 & 13 S18
Chemistry Olympiad Club Year 13 S12	Maths Homework Club All Welcome D28 (WA)	Boys Football Year 9 Astro (AL)	Maths Homework Club All Welcome D28 (WA)	Badminton Club All Welcome Sports Hall (KMW)
All Star Cuban Band All Welcome M1 (Week 2 Only)	Basketball KS 3 Boys & Girls Sports Hall (RJG)		Maths Year 11 All Welcome Maths Department	Drama Club All Welcome PAC (LS)
Girls Netball All Welcome Sports Hall (MSB)	Boys Football Year 7 Astro (MS)		Book Club Years 7 to 11 Z7 (FK)	
Art & Photography Year 11 (RD)	Cook & Eat Sessions All Welcome Food Tech		KS3 Science Club Year 7 to 8 S2	
Computing Club Years 7 to 9 S6	Art & Photography Year 10 & 11 SEM (Week 2 Only)		UoM Science Lectures Years 10/12 S13	
Bar Mock Year 12 & 13 M12			Boys Football Years 8 / 10 / 12 & 13 Astro (AJR & PMA)	
Axiom Maths KS3 Invite Only Maths Department			United Lions Invite Only Resourced Provision	

Key Dates:

Date	Activity / Event	Time(s)
15/09/2025	World Afro Day	All Day
16/09/2025	Y11 BMX Session	1.30pm-3.00pm
18/09/2025	Y12 Induction Evening	6.00pm-7.00pm
19/09/2025	Y13 UCAS Application Session	1.55pm-3.10pm
22/09/2025	Y12 Supreme Court/Parliament Trip	All Day
23/09/2025	Y11 Maths Assessments	8.30am-10.15am
23/09/2025	Y11 BMX Session	1.30pm-3.00pm
23/09/2025	A-Level Course Change Surgery	3.10pm-5.00pm
25/09/2025	Y7 Induction Evening	6.00pm-7.00pm
26/09/2025	Y7/Y10/Y12 Individual Photographs	All Day
30/09/2025	Y11 BMX Session	1.30pm-3.00pm
30/09/2025	Y12 / Y13 House Dodgeball	3.15pm-4.30pm
02/10/2025	Secondary Phase Open Evening	4.30pm-7.00pm
07/10/2025	Y11 Maths Assessments	8.30am-10.15am
07/10/2025	Henshaws Visit	12.30pm-2.00pm
07/10/2025	Y11 BMX Session	1.30pm-3.00pm
07/10/2025	Y8 Football v Chorlton HS	3.30pm-5.00pm
08/10/2025	Y10/Y11 RHS Bridgewater Art Trip	All Day
09/10/2025	UKMT Senior Maths Challenge	10.35am-12.30pm
14/10/2025	Y11 BMX Session	1.30pm-3.00pm
16/10/2025	Sixth Form Open Evening	5.00pm-7.00pm
21/10/2025	Y11 Maths Assessments	8.30am-10.15am
21/10/2025	Y9 English Trip	All Day
22/10/2025	Culture Day	All Day
24/10/2025	Y7-Y11 Nasal Flu Vaccinations	All Day
24/10/2025	Y13 Aspirations Speaker	11.50am-1.05pm
24/10/2025	Half Term Ends	3.10pm