

10th October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a busy but rewarding half term, I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the school and staff. Your partnership in your child's education is invaluable, and it truly makes a difference to their growth and development.

We're thrilled to see how positively students have embraced our new house system, which has already begun to foster a strong sense of belonging and teamwork across the school. Pupils are working incredibly hard to earn house points through their efforts in class, participation in activities, and by consistently demonstrating our core school values: **Respect, Resilience, and Responsibility**. These values are becoming a meaningful part of daily life at school, and we encourage parents and carers to talk with their children about how these values can be applied outside of school as well - in family life, friendships, work and the wider community. Thank you for your continued support in helping us build a positive and values-driven school culture.

Behaviour, Attendance and Punctuality

We're delighted to share that attendance across the school has improved this term — thank you for your continued support in making this happen. Excellent attendance is a cornerstone of student success, and we know that when children are in school consistently, they thrive both academically and socially.

Last year, Year 11 students with attendance above 96% achieved, on average, **two grades higher** at GCSE than their peers. This powerful statistic highlights the direct link between being present in school and achieving strong outcomes.

As we move into the colder, darker months, we ask for your continued encouragement to ensure your child attends every day. Minor ailments such as coughs and colds should not prevent attendance — we do not operate a 24-hour or 48-hour exclusion rule for sickness bugs.

Arriving on time is just as important as attending. A punctual start to the day sets the tone for learning and helps students feel settled, focused, and ready to engage. Late arrivals can disrupt not only your child's learning but also the learning of others. Please help us reinforce the importance of being on time every morning.

Our whole-school attendance target is **95%**, and we are committed to working with families to support and challenge where attendance falls short. If your child is absent, we will be in touch promptly to offer guidance and help address any barriers. **Together**, we can ensure every student at Jarrows School has the best possible chance to succeed.

Mock Exams

Year 11 formal mock examinations will take place the w/b 24th November and will last for approximately 2 weeks. Individual timetables are available in the MCAS app. It is crucial that students take mock exams seriously and as a first key test of how they are doing in relation to targets. Please encourage your child to revise frequently in preparation, as these results will be used to predict final grades.

Points of contact

You can contact your child's Head of Year if you have any pastoral issues, please see contact details below. If you have an academic concern please contact info@jarrowschool.com and your child's teacher or Curriculum Leader will be able to support you.

Year Group	Head of Year	Email
Year 7	Mr Whitley	nwhitley@jarrowschool.com
Year 8	Mr Connolly	mconnolly@jarrowschool.com
Year 9	Miss Coutts	ccoutts@jarrowschool.com
Year 10	Mrs Elgood	aelgood@jarrowschool.com
Year 11	Mr Hannah	shannah@jarrowschool.com

Parental Feedback

We would appreciate it if you could take the time to complete [this survey](#). Your feedback is essential to help us improve our school and provide the best possible education for your child.

MyChildAtSchool

Please ensure you have downloaded and logged into our parental communication app and have notifications turned on. MyChildAtSchool is available in Google Play and the Apple App Store. We use this app to share behaviour and attendance information as well as your child's school reports and timetable. If you have any issues logging in, or need to update your details, please email MCAS@jarrowschool.com.

Extra-Curricular Activities

It has been encouraging to see so many students staying behind after school to take advantage of our vast array of extra-curricular clubs. We would encourage all students to try and attend at least 1 activity per week. With so many different options available from the traditional music and sporting activities to the more bespoke pool and VR clubs, there is something for everyone. The full extra-curricular programme is available on our [website](#).

Parking Reminder

We kindly ask all parents and carers to avoid parking on the pavement on the school side of the road near Post 11 entrance. This area is heavily used by students during arrival and dismissal times, and parking on the kerb creates significant safety risks by obstructing visibility and limiting safe walking space. To help us maintain a secure environment for all children, please use designated parking areas and avoid stopping or parking in this zone. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Please be aware of the following expectations:

- **School starts at 8.40am.** All students are expected to be in form class by then. Students should aim to be **inside the school gates for 8.35am.**
- **Mobile phones** must be turned off and in bags as soon as students enter the school site. The mobile phone policy can be found [here](#).
- **Jewellery, other than a wristwatch, is not permitted** and must be removed before entering the school building.
- **Acrylic Nails:** Please ensure that your child does attend school with acrylic or artificial nails. These can interfere with participation in school activities and are not in line with our uniform policy.
- **Piercings:** For safety and uniformity, piercings are not allowed. Any piercings must be removed before your child enters the school site.
- Our [Behaviour for Learning Policy](#).

Key dates

- Duke of Edinburgh Parent Meeting (Year 9/10) - **Wednesday 22 October**
- Training Day (school closed for students): **Friday 25 October**
- October half term: **w/c 27 October**
- **Monday 3 November 2025 School re-opens to all pupils**
- **Wednesday 12 November** – Year 7 Parent/Tutor Evening 4.00-5.30pm
- **Tuesday 18 November** - Year 10 Work Experience Information Evening 5.00-6.00pm
- Year 11 Mock Exams: **w/c 24 November for 2 weeks**
- Last day of Autumn 2025 term: **Thursday 18 December**

Yours faithfully



Mr P Atkinson
Headteacher