

1 April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

Introduction

I hope this letter finds you well. As we continue this journey together, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible role you play in shaping the lives of our children. As you will see in the Spring newsletter, it has been a very busy term, with some outstanding achievements from students across the school. Last Friday, over 80 students were eager to show the leadership team work they are proud of from a variety of subject areas, demonstrating the ambition, hard work and pride that students have at Jarrow School.

Attendance and Punctuality Update

This half term, we have seen the most significant increase in attendance across the school. We will continue to focus on attendance during the summer term and aim for all students to be in school for 100% of the time. As we enter exam season, it is vitally important that our older students attend school every day. This commitment will maximise their chances of achieving the grades they deserve in the summer exams.

All students working hard to get to school on time and this has been reflected in the calm and orderly start to tutor time. We would like to thank parents for the role they play in ensuring their child arrives on time and equipped for the day.

Some things to remember ...

- If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school as soon as possible to let us know the reason why.
- Avoiding school can make a child's anxiety about going to school worse. It's good to talk to us about this anxiety and allow us to help.
- It is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.

Exams – Years 10 & 11

Controlled Assessments are ongoing throughout this term attendance is vital. Intervention is now underway; students will be informed which lessons they need to attend. The key focus for students' next steps continues to be English, maths and science. Intervention is on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. The final wave of prom invites will be at the end of this half-term.

Options and Exams - Year 9

As Key Stage 3 comes to an end, we begin to look forward to next year. Students will sit 'Entry to KS4' exams on 20 and 22 May, and 1 June 2026. These will provide our English and maths staff with additional information when setting students for GCSEs. Students should be preparing for these assessments by revising at home.

We have students' final option choices. Some subjects are oversubscribed, so work is underway to speak to students about their preferences so we can finalise choices. The final classes will be sent to you next term. Students wanting to follow vocational subjects must have good attendance in order to be successful.

Work Experience - Y10

The vast majority of students have now either secured a work experience placement or are in communication with a placement provider. For those students who are yet to do so, we are continuing to support them to identify an area of interest and make contact with a placement provider. Updates on this will be sent via the MCAS app. Please discuss your child's position with them.

Reminders:

- **School starts at 8:40am.** All students are expected to be on the yard by 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.

Key Dates:

- **Monday 20 April 2026** – All students return to school. On the yard for 8.35am prompt.
- **Tuesday 21 April 2026** – Year 10 Parents' Evening 3.30-6pm
- **Wednesday 29 April 2026** – Year 11 Spanish Speaking Exams
- **Monday 11 May 2026** - Year 11 GCSE Exams begin
- **Wednesday 13 May 2026** – Year 7 Parents' Evening 3.30-6pm
- **Tuesday 2 June and Friday 12 June 2026** - Year 10 GCSE Statistics Exams
- **Tuesday 16 June 2026** - Year 11 Last GCSE Exam
- **Wednesday 17 June 2026** - Year 11 Barbecue 2.35pm
- **W/C 15 June 2026** - Year 10 End Of Year Exams
- **W/C 29 June 2026** - Year 10 Work Experience
- **Wednesday 1 July 2026** - Year 8 Parents' Evening
- **Friday 17 July 2026** - End Of Term

As we approach the Easter break, I would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership with the school. I hope that the holiday provides you and your family with a well-deserved opportunity to rest, spend time together, and recharge.

On behalf of all staff, I would like to wish you a very happy and safe Easter. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed and ready for the next half term.

Yours faithfully



Mr P Atkinson
Headteacher