

2 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have had a relaxing summer break.

I would like to warmly welcome our new Year 7 students and their families to Jarrows School. We understand that moving from primary school to secondary school is a significant milestone, and we are committed to ensuring every child feels safe, supported and confident as they begin this exciting new chapter.

We have been extremely impressed with our new Year 7 students throughout the transition process and look forward to getting to know them over the coming weeks. Our pastoral team, tutors and teaching staff will work closely with students to help them settle quickly into school life, build friendships and develop the habits that will support future success.

Our Key Priorities for 2026-27

We are proud of the achievements and successes of our students over the last academic year. As we begin 2026-27, we remain ambitious for every young person and committed to ensuring that every student attends regularly, aspires highly and achieves their full potential.

This year we will continue to focus on:

- **Raising aspirations for all students**, particularly our most vulnerable learners.
- **Improving attainment and progress in English and Mathematics** through high-quality teaching and targeted support.
- **Promoting excellent attendance** so that students maximise every opportunity available to them.
- **Strengthening reading and literacy** to ensure all students can access and succeed across the curriculum.
- **Maintaining high standards of behaviour and readiness to learn**, creating calm, purposeful classrooms where all students can thrive.

These priorities reflect our vision that every student attends regularly, reads confidently, aspires highly and achieves strongly.

Attendance

Attendance remains one of our most important priorities. Research and our own experience show that students who attend regularly achieve better outcomes, develop stronger relationships and have greater opportunities both during and beyond school.

We ask all parents and carers to work in partnership with us to ensure their child attends school every day unless genuinely unwell. If your child is absent, please contact the school as early as possible on the morning of the absence.

Benedict's Law and Allergy Safety

Parents and carers may be aware of the recent introduction of **Benedict's Law**, which strengthens allergy safety arrangements in schools. As part of this legislation, schools are required to have robust procedures

in place to support students with allergies, including staff training, individual healthcare plans and emergency procedures.

Our Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy can be viewed here: [Allergy and Anaphylaxis Policy](#)

If your child has an allergy or a medical condition which has changed over the summer, please contact the school as soon as possible so we can ensure our records are fully updated.

Free School Meals (FSM)

The Department for Education has announced significant changes to Free School Meal eligibility from September 2026. Families receiving Universal Credit may now be eligible, however **all families must apply or reapply for consideration**. Existing entitlement will not automatically continue. If you believe your child may be eligible, please complete an application as soon as possible:

Please complete this online form - www.cloudforedu.org.uk

Further information can be found on the South Tyneside Council website:

[South Tyneside Free School Meals Information](#)

Learning Resource Packs

This year all students will be issued with a Learning Resource Pack to support them in being fully prepared for learning every day. The pack contains the essential equipment students need to participate successfully in lessons and develop good organisational habits.

Having the pack with them each day means students can start learning straight away, take part fully in classroom activities, complete tasks independently and develop responsibility for their own learning.

We ask parents and carers to support us by ensuring that students:

- Bring their Learning Resource Pack to school and to every lesson each day.
- Take pride in looking after their equipment and replacing any lost or damaged items promptly.
- Carry a reading book as part of their Learning Resource Pack every day.

Tutors will check Learning Resource Packs during tutor time each morning and students who regularly forget their pack may receive reminders and, where necessary, parents/carers may be contacted.

Success starts with being prepared. The Learning Resource Pack is an important part of helping students develop the organisation, independence and responsibility that will support them throughout their time at Jarrows School.

MyChildAtSchool

Please ensure you have downloaded and logged into our parental communication app and that notifications are enabled. MyChildAtSchool is available through both the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. We use this app to share attendance and behaviour information, school reports, timetables and other important communications. If you experience any problems accessing your account, please contact MCAS@jarrowschool.com.

Reminders

- **School starts at 8.40am.** All students are expected to be in their form room by this time and should aim to be **inside the school gates by 8.35am.**
- **Mobile phones** must be switched off and stored in bags as soon as students enter the school site. Our mobile phone policy can be viewed here: [Mobile Phone Policy](#)
- **Jewellery, other than a wristwatch, is not permitted** and should be removed before entering school.
- **Uniform** – the only compulsory branded items of uniform are the white polo shirt, school jumper and blue PE top. Full details can be found in our [Uniform Policy](#).
- **Acrylic or artificial nails** are not permitted.
- **Piercings** are not permitted and must be removed before entering the school site.
- **Nail varnish and false eyelashes** are not permitted.
- **Make-up** is not permitted in Year 7.
- **Hair colour** should be natural.

Key Dates

- **Friday 23 October** – School closes for Half Term.
- **Monday 2 November** – School reopens after Half Term.
- **Wednesday 11 November** – Year 7 Parent/Tutor Evening (4.00pm-5.30pm).
- **Friday 18 December** – End of Autumn Term.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to welcoming students back and working together to make the 2026-27 academic year a successful one for every child.

Yours sincerely,



Mr P Atkinson
Head Teacher