

2 September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you and your family have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all students and families back to Jarrow School as we begin the new academic year. We are looking forward to welcoming students in Years 8 to 11 back to school on **Thursday 3 September**.

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.

Our key priorities for 2026-27

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 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. This is the [link](#) to the user guide a previous communications.

Reminders

- **School starts at 8.40am.** All students are expected to be in their form class by this time and should aim to be **inside the school gates by 8.35am**.
- **Mobile phones** must be switched off and stored in school bags as soon as students enter the school site. Our mobile phone policy can be found here: [Mobile Phone Policy](#)
- **Jewellery, other than a wristwatch, is not permitted** and should be removed before entering the school building.
- **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 students enter the school site.
- **Nail varnish and false eyelashes** are not permitted.
- **Make-up** is not permitted in Years 7, 8 and 9. Discreet make-up is permitted in Years 10 and 11.
- **Hair colour** should be natural.

Key Dates

- **Thursday 17 September** – Year 11 Information Evening (5.00pm-6.00pm)
- **Thursday 15 October** – Year 10 Work Experience Information Evening (5.00pm-6.00pm)
- **Friday 23 October** – School closes for Half Term.
- **Monday 2 November** – School reopens after Half Term.
- **Monday 23 November to Friday 4 December** – Year 11 Mock Examinations.
- **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