



Joseph
Leckie
Academy

Date: 02/06/2025

Clarification Regarding Authorised Absence for Eid al-Adha – Friday

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to clarify the Academy's position on authorised absence for students this Friday in light of Eid al-Adha, and to sincerely apologise for any confusion caused by our previous communication, sent out earlier today.

In our earlier letter, we stated that one day of authorised leave per year may be granted for religious observance. However, we would like to clarify that the correct DfE guidance allows for *one day of authorised absence per religious festival*. Therefore, if your child is absent on Friday due to Eid al-Adha, this will be recorded as an authorised absence for religious observance.

We fully appreciate the importance of this celebration for many of our families and regret any misunderstanding our initial message may have caused.

Our original approach was motivated by a desire to provide all students, particularly those sitting important external examinations—including GCSE English and Geography on Friday—with a calm and focused environment. We remain committed to supporting all our students through the exam season, and we will continue to deliver revision sessions and our normal curriculum to maintain consistency for those attending school. We believe it goes without saying that all students sitting external examinations should attend school as normal on Friday for their examinations and the revision sessions.

If your child is not sitting an exam on Friday and you choose for them to be absent on that day for religious observance, please be assured that this will now be treated as authorised.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students sitting exams the very best of luck, and to extend our warmest wishes to all students and families celebrating Eid. May this be a peaceful and joyous time for you all.

Once again, we apologise for any confusion caused and thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Kind regards,

James Ludlow
CEO

Rachel Cook
Associate Principal



Learn together, lead together. **Joseph Leckie Academy**



Walstead Road West, Walsall, WS5 4PG

Tel: 01922 721071

Email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

Chief Executive Office: Mr James Ludlow

Associate Principal: Ms Rachel Cook