



Joseph
Leckie
Academy

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands, WS5 4PG

Telephone: 01922 721071

Email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

Website: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk

Principal: Mr A McNaughton

22nd August 2025

Dear Families,

We hope you are well and have had a good summer. We are really looking forward to seeing our students again in September, refreshed and ready to have a great year. Please do read the information below for more details on when your child is expected to be in school and what they will need, some important updates and reminders to make sure the new term goes as smoothly as possible.

This is my first letter to you as the new Principal of Joseph Leckie Academy. I am delighted and honoured to have been appointed to the position and to be able to work with you all at our fantastic school. I look forward to meeting you all in due course and working with you to ensure that your children get the very best out of their time with us in school.

First, we would like to mention how pleased we are with the wonderful examination results achieved by our students again this summer. We are all very proud of everything that they have achieved, especially given the significant challenges they all faced and have overcome following the disruptions they have faced in recent years.

Our Year 13s are now making their final plans to go away to university or begin an apprenticeship, and we are really pleased that so many students secured their first-choice destination. Most Year 11 students are now enrolled in our Sixth form, at a college or on an apprenticeship. Once again, we have many students getting ready to join us in our 6th form to begin the next phase of their education. **If your son/daughter has not yet enrolled in the Sixth Form they can do so in the afternoon on September 2nd from 1pm**, although please do be aware some courses may well already be full.

We had many of our Year 11 students achieving the top grades of 7 to 9 at GCSE or distinction* in their vocational courses and similarly a high level of success from our sixth form students who achieved grades A*, A and distinctions in their Level 3 examinations. Our results again rank us highly in terms of performance compared to other Walsall Schools this year. Similarly, the Academy is hugely proud of those students who found their examinations more challenging but persevered to achieve results that will allow them to move onto the next stage of their studies. It is not only our school leavers that sit examinations, but there were also some impressive examination results for students who were entered early in Year 10 in History and Modern Foreign Languages. A huge well done to you all.

We would also like to thank the staff, parents and members of the wider community who have supported the students to achieve their success and with their progression choices. We see the greatest achievements when we all work together to achieve the goals of the students.

As well as the very positive exam results, we have also been busy over the summer improving and upgrading and decorating many of the facilities across the Academy ready for the start of the new Academic year. Please ensure that your child is ready to start school on the correct date and with the correct equipment and uniform.



Learn together, lead together.





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The start of term is a good time to give some clear reminders about some of our key rules and expectations. We have high expectations of all members of the Academy community because we want everyone at Joseph Leckie to achieve highly and enjoy coming to school. Please can we therefore remind you of the following:

- **Attendance** – all students are expected to arrive on time on the date stated below and please note that we will follow up on all students who are not in school, with either phone calls or home visits. The first week back is as important as all other weeks when new courses and classes will start. Attendance is a key to success, and it is no surprise that students who attend school more regularly go on to be more successful. **Improving attendance of individuals will be a key focus for the school this year.**
- **Holidays in term time** – Absence for holidays will not be authorised and we expect all students to return for the start of term. Anyone who has not returned on the relevant start date (see below) will receive a visit from our Home School Liaison team and will automatically lose their place on our attendance rewards trips.
- **Uniform** - There should be no hoodies, tracksuit tops or trainers worn. We will be reinforcing this on return, making calls home and issuing consequences where students do not have the correct uniform. If there are any exceptional circumstances it is important that you liaise with your child's Head of Year to discuss these. **For full clarification of our Uniform and Appearance Expectations, please refer to the policy on our website:** [Joseph Leckie Academy - Uniform](#)
- **Hairlines/eyebrows patterns** – The Academy does not permit any lines or patterns in students' hair. Any patterns or lines should be grown out so that they are no longer visible in time for the start of term. Hair colouring needs to be in line with our Uniform and Appearance policy which states that 'excessively bright or unusual colours are not allowed.'
- **Piercings** - 1 plain stud per earlobe is permitted.
- **Mobile phones** – Mobile phones, including earphones (ear pods etc) should not be seen heard, or used at any time or under any circumstances on the Academy site. This is a key part of our safeguarding strategy as an Academy and will be reinforced robustly, including through confiscation of mobile phone devices and after school detentions.
- **Equipment for Learning** – Students are reminded that they need to have a full set of basic equipment every day so that they can complete work without needing to ask the teacher. All students must bring a pencil case with a range of stationery items, including spare pens and pencils.
- **Lanyards** – Students are expected to wear a lanyard at all times. If your child is going into Year 8 and above, they should continue to use the lanyard they have been issued with. Students who are joining us in Year 7 will be given a lanyard in their first week. Anyone in Year 8 and above who has misplaced their lanyard should order one online using Arbor.



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- **Lateness** – students need to ensure that they are **on the Academy site by 8.28 am** at the latest and be in form groups or lined up for their assembly by 8.30. Parents should ensure that their child has set off early enough to get onto site via the correct entrance for their year group. Students are also reminded that they should arrive to lessons on time. There are consequences for lateness in the morning and to lessons.

Start of term arrangements:

Tuesday 2nd September - Start of the new term for Year 7 and 12 only . Students in these years **will start at 8.20 am** where there will be further induction activities, assembly, photographs for new lanyards and lessons will also commence.

Year 7 morning entrance – KWB2 entrance – please use the student path next to the Academy reception. Staff will be on the gates to meet you and guide you where to go.

6th Form morning entrance - Entrance gates closest to form room – if you are unsure of where this will be, please come through the main entrance and go to the Post 16 Upper study room to find out more information.

Wednesday 3rd September 2025 - Start of the new term for students in Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13. Gates open at 8.20 and are closed at 8.28. All years will have form time and period 1 in their new form rooms. It is important you come in through the correct entrance:

New Year 7 morning entrance – KWB2 entrance – student path next to the Academy reception

New Year 8 morning entrance - Lord Street gates

New Year 9 morning entrance – Lord Street Gates

New Year 10 morning entrance - KWB2 student path next to reception

New Year 11 morning entrance - Walstead Road West End gates

6th Form morning entrance - Entrance gates closest to form room

End of the school day:

Students will leave school via the nearest exit to their period 5 lesson or at a gate that you have pre-arranged. Please note that school ends at 3.00pm. Parents should collect students from outside the relevant gates but **should not park on double yellow lines or in the 'no parking' zones by the zebra crossings**. This is for the safety of all students and local residents.

Timetables for the start of term.

Students in Years 8-13 will receive their new timetable from Monday 1st September via Class Charts and Arbor so it is important that they check on Class Charts/Arbor before they return to school as this will have their form tutor details which may have changed from last year.

All students will also receive a hard copy in form time in the morning when they return, but wherever possible it is important to check these for changes to forms and equipment they will need on the first day for their lessons as this might include a PE lesson. **If your child is in Year 7 they will receive their timetable on their first day from their form tutor.**



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Academy timings for the day.

8.20am - 8.28am	Enter school site via the designated year group morning entrance gates. All morning entrance gates locked at 8.28am
8.30am-9.00am	Form / assembly
9.00am – 10.00am	Period 1
10.00am – 11.00am	Period 2
11.00am – 11.15am	Morning break
11.20am - 12.20pm	Period 3
12.20pm - 2.00pm	Period 4 (Including lunch)
12.20pm – 1.00pm	<i>Lunch 1 (Years 7/9/11)</i>
1.20pm -2.00pm	<i>Lunch 2 (Years 8/10/12/13)</i>
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Period 5
3.00pm	Enrichment opportunities

Class Charts and Arbor Reminder: Students and parents in Years 8 and above should already be using Class Charts for logging into our behaviour/rewards monitoring platform and Arbor for accessing information on attendance, timetables, progress data and reports. It is important that you check both apps regularly. We use Arbor for live updates, information, letters and important messages in addition to allowing you to access specific information on your child.

If any parent is unsure about how to log in and wants a reminder, please contact your child's Head of Year and they will be able to help you. Students and parents for students in Year 7 will be issued with log in details early in the new term.

Both Apps continue to support us all as we seek to work in partnership to ensure that all our students make the best possible progress and achieve the highest possible grades in their examinations. With their positive points, students earn virtual medals (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum) and many have been using their points to make purchases from our Class Charts shop, and some enter these into prize draws for even bigger prizes! Parents already using the Class Charts App will have been able to see all of the positive comments and rewards that their children have received daily. Please can we remind you that all detentions and logs of negative behaviour will be shared with you through Class Charts.

We are really looking forward to working in partnership with you all again during this new academy year. We hope you enjoy the remainder of the summer break and look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours faithfully

Mr A McNaughton
Principal



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Key Dates:

Week Commencing 1 st September	Activities week – information has already been sent for relevant activities and days for Trips
Tuesday 2 nd September	Year 7 and Year 12 Students return arriving at 8.20 – see information above
Tuesday 2 nd September	Afternoon 1pm-3pm– Post 16 late enrolments. If your son/daughter has not yet enrolled they can do so in the afternoon, although please do be aware some courses may well be full.
Wednesday 3 rd September	All students return and go directly to forms – arrive by 8.28 and lessons will commence after a form period.



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