



8th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable break. We are delighted to welcome you back as we begin the spring term.

The students have made an excellent start back; despite the challenges the weather has given us. I am sure most families are aware of Storm Goretti that is due to arrive later today. At the moment the forecast is very uncertain as to whether we will receive heavy rain and sleet or snow.

We are unable to make a decision this evening due to the changing nature of the forecast and do not want to decide to close the school when we do not need to.

We will assess the conditions in the morning, both at school and the surrounding areas of where our staff travel from, and will inform you of our intentions as soon as is possible via an email through Arbor and messages on our website and social media.

In the event of a closure the Post 16 students sitting a Health and Social care exam will still need to attend school and take the exam. They should arrive at 12:45pm and will sit the exam in the library.

It is always a difficult decision as to whether to keep a school open or close it, and it always causes a difference of opinion amongst parents, so I appreciate your support in the difficult predicament we are in.

We are excited to start another term full of opportunities for our students. This spring, we are thrilled to welcome two new members of staff:

- **Mrs Benzigar** – joining our Science team
- **Mrs Partridge** – our new Lead Practitioner for Literacy and English teacher

I am confident that their expertise and enthusiasm will make a positive impact on our school community.

It seems ironic that I am choosing to write about good attendance whilst also mentioning we may need to close the school, but as you will know excellent attendance is crucial for our students' success. This term we are aiming for every student to achieve **attendance above 95%**. Good attendance ensures that students do not miss out on valuable learning and are able to make the most of all the opportunities at Joseph Leckie Academy.

How You Can Help

- Ensure your child attends school every day the school is open, unless they are genuinely unwell.

Learn together, lead together.





Joseph Leckie Academy

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- Where possible, book medical and other appointments outside school hours.
- Inform us promptly if your child is absent by contacting the attendance office.

There is much to look forward to this term, including a range of enrichment activities, trips, and opportunities for students to develop both academically and personally.

Please see below for some key dates:

Date	Event
Thursday 15 th January	Year 8 Options Evening
Thursday 29 th January	Fashion and Talent Show
Thursday 5 th February	Year 11 Parents Evening and Mock Exam Result Collection
Thursday 5 th March	Year 8 Parents Evening

Thank you for your ongoing support. Together let's make spring term 2026 a successful and positive one for all our students.

Yours faithfully

Mr A McNaughton

Principal

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