

Our Ref: KIN

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. We have now been at our new building for six weeks, and it's flown by. We're all starting to properly settle in, and the students have been especially adaptable and resilient during the big process of change. I am continually amazed at the students' ability to learn so quickly.

I have quite a few notices for you this week.

### **Official Opening – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

Our building will be officially opened by Dame Chi Onwurah MP in a ceremony on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October. We'll have a large guest list of influential people across the region, who will be guided around our school by our wonderful students.

The opening of Callerton Academy is a huge milestone for Newcastle City, and moreover, the Outer West. Currently we have nearly 700 students, and when we are full, we'll have 1200 students. Five years ago, there was no school, just a proposal with current Year 11 families signing up for something new for their children. Moving into our new, state of the art facility is a big step in our school's history.

### **Key Dates**

- Y7 parents/carers will receive Settling in Reports 17<sup>th</sup> October.
- Y11 will sit mock assessments week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> October. Students have received a Study Sessions timetable to help them prepare.

### **Free School Meals Vouchers for over October half term**

If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals at school, you will be receiving a voucher to cover the cost of a meal per day. You will receive the voucher via email and you can select which supermarket to use it at, whichever is best for you. At Callerton Academy, we use a company called Wonde to provide these vouchers for parents and carers. Here is a [Youtube video](#) that walks you through what you should receive. The system is easy to use with clear instructions in the email.

**Katie Innes** Principal

**Dr. Alexandra Thorp** CEO

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**Food and Design Technology Costs** We deliver a broad curriculum where all students can take an active part in all subjects. In Food and Design Technology, we provide ingredients and equipment for all lessons. This year, we are asking for a contribution to these subjects.

### **Key Stage 3 – Y7, Y8, Y9**

The contribution for KS3 students is £20 in total. This covers DT and Food costs.

### **Key Stage 4 – Y10, Y11**

KS4 students only contribute to the subject (Food/DT) they study.

- If your child studies Design Technology GCSE, the contribution is £10.
- If your child studies Food Technology GCSE or Hospitality and Catering, the contribution is £10.
- If your child studies both, the contribution is £20.

All students will have the option to take everything they make home. The school will heavily subsidise the other materials/machinery for these courses.

We have kept the request to a minimal amount and hope most families will be able to make payment. We understand that financial circumstances vary. We assure you that students will not be excluded from activities if the contribution hasn't been paid. If any parent would like to discuss this, please email [admin@callertonacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@callertonacademy.org.uk)

Payments can be made via the School Shop section of our online payment platform iPay <https://www.ipayimpact.co.uk>. If these payments can be made by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025, this would be greatly appreciated.

### **Attendance – Notice from Miss Davidson**

School attendance is incredibly important. At Callerton Academy, we appreciate your continued support in reinforcing the message that “missing school is missing out”. This support is evident in ensuring that our young people are only absent for serious illness.

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The Gosforth Federated Academies Ltd trading as the Gosforth Group – Company Registration Number: 07431423

Registered Office: Gosforth Academy, Knightsbridge, Great North Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 2JH

You may have seen our new attendance poster on our social media platforms, which highlights why we're so passionate about helping every child be here every day. As

part of our regular school procedures, we are sending letters to parents about their child's current attendance rate. These letters are a standard part of our working practice and help you stay informed about your child's attendance.

To further support our young people, we've heightened mentoring for students to help them overcome any barriers to attendance. We are also increasing opportunities to celebrate our students' successes.

### **Parking and Road Safety**

A polite reminder to families who drop off, or pick up their children from school that we should be respectful of our local residents. Please do not park in front of residents' drives. Additionally, we have had a few concerned members of the public contacting us about some students' lack of road safety awareness. We are talking to the students about this in school, and please re-iterate the importance of road safety at home.

### **Aerosols**

Students should not have aerosols cans (deodorants, body sprays, etc.) in school. Please ensure that your child does not bring them into school.

### **Useful Information**

We know that households are busy and as parents and carers you have a lot to juggle. There is a lot of information that comes to you from school. So, as a reminder:

1. We send out general information in the bi-weekly newsletter, which can be found on the website [here](#)
2. Facebook and Instagram celebrate what the students do day-to-day. You'll also find information and reminders on here.
3. Our school website has all the information about the school. The [school calendar](#) is on there, which is particularly helpful for term dates and upcoming events.

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## **School Support**

At school, our Pastoral Team support young people and their families by listening and helping where they can. The mentors for each Year Group are:

- Year 7 – Mrs Jacques
- Year 8 – Miss Scott
- Year 9 – Mrs Lau
- Year 10 – Mr McCall
- Year 11 – Miss Robson

If you need to get in touch, please contact the school office on 0191 605 3835.

## **A Big Thank You for our Open Events**

We have welcomed over 300 students' families to our open events showcasing our new building. A big thank you to all who have been able to attend. Staff have loved meeting our students with their families.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Innes  
Principal  
Callerton Academy

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