

Our Ref: KIN

Date: December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well as we hurtle towards the end of the calendar year. It is wonderful that we have been in our new build school, in our community, for a whole term now. I know that we are all really enjoying the new building with its fantastic facilities. A great example of this is the professional performance that the Year 10 and 11 experienced on Wednesday – in our very own theatre! Well done for all Year 7, 8 and 9 who have enjoyed going to the Panto on Wednesday this week.

Year 10 Parents and Carers Evening Monday 15th December

We have Year 10 Parents and Carers' Evening on Monday from 4pm to 6pm in school in the Main Hall. Please use the car park as necessary and come into school via the Main Reception. Appointment booking is online via the School Cloud website [here](#).

Parents and Carers evenings are so important for communication between families and school, to support the student's learning. Please contact Mr McCall on 0191 605 3835 if you have any queries/questions about the event. We are really looking forward to seeing you and your child on Monday.

Payment for Trips, Visits and School Meals

Payment for trips, visits and school meals are via the iPayimpact system. All parents and carers should have access to this system. If you do not have access to this or need help to access it, please contact us on 0191 605 3835, or via email on admin@callertonacademy.org.uk.

Sometimes families need support to pay for school activities or uniforms, for example. This is no problem, and we encourage families to ask for confidential financial help. If you do need support, please contact your child's Pastoral Mentor, who are:

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

Katie Innes Principal

Dr. Alexandra Thorp CEO

Bedeburn Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 4JQ

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Year 11 Preparation for Mocks over the holidays

Year 11 have mocks two weeks after the winter holidays, starting on 19th January. We will be sending the students home with revision for every subject. Students should be actively revising over the holidays to make the most of the mock process. After the mocks, the students have 11 school weeks before GCSE and vocational exams start.

Reading at Callerton – Over the Holidays

As we approach the winter break, we'd like to remind our school community that Callerton students should continue to read over the holidays. Maintaining a regular reading routine helps ensure fantastic progress and keeps up the excellent routines we've worked hard to establish this term.

A long break without reading can lead to a dip in skills, making it harder to settle back in to learning in January. To support all students with their holiday reading, our English teachers will be setting aside time next week for each class to visit the library to make sure all students have plenty of exciting books to enjoy over the holidays. Plus, there will be plenty of stamps on offer to reward any reading students complete.

Christmas Lunch – Thursday 18th December

We have Christmas lunch for all students on Thursday 18th December. This is the cost of a normal school meal at £3. As usual, there will be vegetarian and halal options available.

Kinship Event

Please see the attached flyer for the Kinship Christmas Party from the Local Authority.

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Attendance to School - The Three-week Plan

At Callerton we have a strong culture around the importance of attending every day. We firmly believe that missing school is missing out – on learning, friendships and on the wider opportunities that school provides. We know from experience that in the last week of term and the first week of term, we can see a dip in attendance, with some students missing particularly on the first and last day. This is something that we know can be better with your support. You may already have heard from your child, but we are excited to let you know that we have launched a new attendance competition. The challenge is for students to achieve 100% attendance during the last two weeks of this term and the first week of next term. Every student who successfully completes this challenge will receive a prize to celebrate their achievement.

Detention changes for next week

Detention this week is moved to the following:

- Detention catch up – Wednesday 17th December 3:30pm – 5:30pm
- Main Detention – Thursday 18th December 3:30pm – 5:30pm

For the small minority of students who have a detention, families can see this by looking at their child's planner. Additionally, families will receive a letter on Tuesday 16th December as a reminder.

Final week before the holidays and First Week Back

Next week is the final week of this term. School finishes on Friday 19th December at 12:45pm. Students will be in lessons as usual, and lunch will be earlier on Friday to accommodate everyone to eat on site before school ends.

The start of term is Monday 5th January 2026, at normal time. Breakfast club will start at 8am and students should be in their form rooms by 8:40am.

School will be closed for two weeks over the winter break, with the main office closed. If you would like to contact school, please do so via phone on 0191 605 3835 or via email on admin@callertonacademy.org.uk, and we will contact you when school opens on Monday 5th January.

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Advance Notice – Detention Catch up to Move to a Monday

For the very small minority of students who are unable to attend a detention on a Friday, there is a 2-hour detention catch up. From the week beginning Monday 12th January, this will move to a Monday night.

Vouchers For Children on Free School Meals over the Winter Holidays

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 for the winter holidays. You will receive the £30 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.

TEP Survey

This week, we sent you a letter about a parent and carer survey that is being done across the Gosforth Group Trust. Please complete the survey, we value your feedback and experiences as Callerton families.

Thank you

A big thank you to students, staff, families and the wider community of Callerton Academy for this calendar year. Everyone has shown great resilience in moving our school to its brand-new building. I look forward to 2026 for our whole community and for our continued work together.

I hope you all have a wonderful winter break with time for rest and celebrations with family and friends.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Innes
Principal
Callerton Academy

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