

Welcome to

GARSTANG COMMUNITY ACADEMY



Mr Ashcroft's Welcome

**"Thank you for choosing
Garstang Community
Academy as your secondary
school – you've made a great
choice!"**



Mr Alasdair Ashcroft, Headteacher

GCA VISION

GROW:

Proud to grow happy, considerate and successful people

Proud to grow a vibrant, safe & successful school

Proud to grow

ACHIEVE:

Proud to be inspired to achieve amazing things

Proud to be resilient & independent life-long learners

Proud to achieve

CARE:

Proud to care for & respect all others

Proud to care for our school & our planet

Proud to care

PROUD TO GROW • **C**ARE • **A**CHIEVE

STAYING IN TOUCH

Website: www.garstangcommunityacademy.com (Year 6 Transition)

Twitter: @garstangacademy for news and updates

Email: info@garstangcommunityacademy.com



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT) IN SEPTEMBER

Headteacher

Mr Alasdair Ashcroft

Senior Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Katie Rawcliffe

Deputy Headteacher

Ms Laura Royds

Assistant Headteachers

Mr Gary Felvus

Mrs Leoni Smith

Mrs Helen Tasker

Mrs Jayne Crow



Mr Ashcroft



Mrs Rawcliffe



Ms Royds



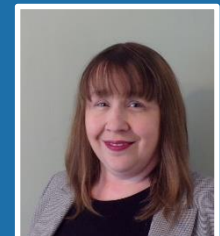
Mr Felvus



Mrs Smith



Mrs Tasker



Mrs Crow

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

We work closely with all our feeder schools to ensure that Year 6 pupils are prepared for this period of change in their lives. Detailed discussions with class teachers allow us to gain an insight to each child's strengths and areas where support may be needed.

Once the Autumn Term is underway, the Form Tutors are the first point of contact for both pupils and parents. The Settling-In Evening ensures that any teething problems are quickly resolved.

The partnership between Garstang Community Academy and parents/carers is very important. We encourage parents to be fully involved with their child's progress and they are welcome to make an appointment with school to discuss any aspect of their child's education.

Year 7 pupils can look forward to an enjoyable and productive year, full of new challenges, hard work, success and rewards!

We look forward to meeting you all very soon.

FORM GROUPS

- There will be 6 form groups in Year 7
- Form groups are set up by the Year 7 Pastoral Team who will take into consideration recommendations from your child's Year 6 primary teachers
- Your child will be with their form group for all lessons initially

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Mrs Smith



Hello Year 7 - my name is Mrs Smith and I met many of you on my transition visits to your Primary Schools recently. I am one of the Assistant Headteachers and a Maths teacher at GCA and one of my responsibilities is leading our pastoral team in school. The Year 7 pastoral team, who you will be introduced to in the following slides, will be working together next year to make sure you settle into GCA well and we will take great care of you. I am really looking forward to you all starting here at GCA in September. I know you will love it here - it is a fantastic school!

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Mrs Rainbow



Hello Year 7 - my name is Mrs Rainbow and I met all of you on my transition visits to your Primary Schools recently. I am really looking forward to you all starting here at GCA in September. I know you will love it here - it is a fantastic school!

I have been a PE teacher at GCA for 15 years. My interests include:- playing hockey and netball, skiing, coaching my son's football team, walking in the Lake District with my family and eating pizza!! I am really looking forward to meeting you all again in September.

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Miss Shepherd



Hello Year 7! My name is Miss Shepherd and I am a PE teacher at GCA. I have been a teacher at Garstang for 7 years. My interests include playing netball and going for long walks with my two dogs Doris and Lily. My favourite foods are Percy Pigs and Italian. I am really looking forward to meeting you all in September.

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Mr Grimmett



Hi! I'm Mr. Grimmett and I'm a Science teacher at Garstang Community Academy. I mostly teach physics, and my favourite topic is space! As for my interests, I enjoy playing video games, rock climbing, reading and origami. I'm really looking forward to meeting you all in September!

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Mr Thistlethwaite



Hi everyone, I am Mr Thistlethwaite and I am Assistant Subject Leader in Maths at GCA. I have been a teacher since 2013 and have been at Garstang since 2019. It is a fantastic school and really enjoy my time here. The staff and students will make you all feel really welcome. I would encourage you to fully embrace life at GCA with all the opportunities we offer. I like my sports including Cricket, Football and Rugby, however I run the chess club in school as well. Whatever is it you enjoy get involved. See you all in September!

YEAR 7 PASTORAL TEAM

Mr Conway



I am Mr Conway and I have been a teacher for 33 years and have loved every minute! My subject is Design Technology and I get a real satisfaction from passing on the practical skills to the children.

I have worked in a number of schools and in my last school became Deputy Head. Although I loved this role I missed the classroom and so decided to step down from that role to return to the classroom. A great decision! I have been at Garstang for 3 ½ years teaching DT and Engineering working with a great team!

Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND)



Mrs Radford – SEND Co-ordinator

Hi, I am Mrs Radford and my job in school is as the SENDCO (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator). This means that if you struggle to read, write, speak, find numeracy tricky or have difficulties accessing the work in classrooms, the learning support team are here to help you.

<https://garstangcommunityacademy.com/parents/sen-arrangements>

SEND (continued)

Some of you may already have help in your primary school and we will do our best to continue this at Garstang Community Academy. It is important that we know what support you have so the teachers know how best to teach you.

I will be around school but you can also find me or the teaching assistants in the learning development area if you want to speak to us.

I look forward to meeting you.

Mrs Radford – SEND Co-ordinator

<https://garstangcommunityacademy.com/parents/sen-arrangements>

Inclusion Centre



Mrs Robinson – Inclusion Centre

Hello, my name is Mrs Robinson. I am based in the Inclusion Centre and it is my job to help young people if they struggling a little or need some extra support. I am here every day and you can find me at lunch and break times if you would like to pop in for a chat. I am really looking forward to meeting you!

Key Information



INFORMATION SHARING

Year 6 teachers share information on effort, attainment, attitude, safeguarding, behaviour, attendance and friendships. The teachers help us get to know the children a little before they arrive at Garstang Community Academy.



BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING

The GCA Behaviour for Learning Policy is easy to understand, a firm but fair system that allows teachers to teach and students to learn

<https://garstangcommunityacademy.com/information/policies>

Our BfL rules are:

- Students arrive promptly to lessons and bring the correct equipment
- Students wear the school uniform correctly
- Students act respectfully towards all members of staff and their classmates
- Students work to the best of their ability and contribute positively to their lessons

LESSONS

- Students will complete 5 one hour lessons each day and will meet with their form tutor once a day for 30 minutes.

The School Day

8:40 – 9:10am	Form Time
9:10 – 10:10am	Lesson 1
10:10 – 10:30am	Break
10:30 – 11.30am	Lesson 2
11:30 – 12:30pm	Lesson 3
12:30 – 1.05pm	Lunch
1:05 – 2:05pm	Lesson 4
2:05 – 3:05pm	Lesson 5

** Please note that timings may be subject to change*



INDIVIDUAL MUSIC LESSONS

We are lucky to have a team of visiting teachers who are highly skilled in their field and can offer individual music lessons in the following instruments:

Guitar (electric, acoustic and bass) ~ Piano ~ Drum kit ~ Brass (including trumpet and trombone)
Woodwind (including flute, clarinet and saxophone) ~ Singing

Lessons take place on a one to one basis during the school day and are usually 30 minutes in duration. They are charged at £15 per lesson, although parents of children who receive Pupil Premium funding should discuss this with us.

If your child would like to register for individual music lessons at school from September, please email Mrs Crow at creativearts@garstangcommunityacademy.com for a form.

UNIFORM



- All our uniform is available via The Uniform & Leisurewear Company at 66 Church St, Garstang, PR3 1YA <https://www.ualonline.com/product-category/schoolwear/garstang/garstang-community-academy-school/>
- Please read our uniform guidelines carefully - these are detailed on our website <https://garstangcommunityacademy.com/parents/uniform>
- Please be aware of our expectations regarding personal appearance - hair colour, jewellery and makeup etc

COMMUNICATION

- **ParentMail** – for correspondence and payments (www.parentmail.co.uk). Download the app.
- **Synergy** – for behaviour, attendance, homework, remote learning

Parents/carers will be sent details and log-in details for both platforms at the beginning of the term



ParentMail



ATTENDANCE

Absence with good reason → parent/carer contacts school

No contact made by parent/carer → school contacts home

Frequent illness-related absence → doctor's note

No Holidays in term time

Excellent attendance (97%) → rewarded

TRANSPORT

- School bus services are managed centrally through LCC except for the 46X service
- Cycling to school is allowed and we have a lockable bike shed available. Students are advised to wear safety helmets, use cycle lanes where possible and have appropriate lights and hi-vis
- If your child is walking to/from school please note that some of the pavements are very narrow and they must adhere to road safety
- If you are driving your child to school please be aware that the car park barrier is closed between 2.45pm and 3.20pm



SCHOOL MEALS

- GCA is a healthy eating school and our serveries are open every day serving hot and cold meals, snacks, fresh fruit and drinks – at breakfast, breaktime and lunch
- Vegetarian options plus salads and sandwiches are always available
- The cost of a main course, dessert and drink is approximately £2.50
- We operate a cashless system and student catering accounts can be credited through ParentMail. More information on how to use the system will be sent out later tis term.
- If students wish to bring a packed lunch it can be eaten in one of the dining rooms

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

- If your child is currently entitled to Free School Meals you do not need to reapply.
- If your circumstances have changed and you believe your child may now be entitled to Free School Meals please see the link <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/schools/free-school-meals/>

MY FIRST DAY AT GCA

What Will I Need on My First Day

- Correct Uniform
- PE kit
- A school bag
- A pencil case with at least 2 blue/black ink biros, green biro, pencil, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, glue stick, calculator
- Packed lunch or money to buy lunch
- A refillable water bottle



MY FIRST DAY AT GCA

When do I start?

- On: Thursday 2nd September 2021
- At: Please arrive by 8.40am
- Where: Staff will direct you to the gym

Welcome to
**Garstang
Community
Academy**





Lockers

- All students are able to hire a locker for the duration of their time at GCA
- These will be organised at the start of term
- The cost of hire for 5 years is £50 (non-refundable)
- Payment can be made via IRIS ParentMail



Mobile Phones

- Mobile phones are not permitted
- If students bring their mobile phone/electronic equipment to school it must be **kept in their bags and switched off**
- Students are not allowed to use their mobile phones during the school day, including break times
- If phones are used outside of these rules they will be confiscated with collection by parents required
- The same rules apply to headphones
- If students need to contact parents during the school day they must go to the reception office

Extra Curricular Activities

We have lots of extra curricular clubs on offer – it is important to get involved and make the most of every opportunity! Joining in will help students to learn new skills, make friends and have fun.



Some of the clubs on offer

- Concert Band
- Handball
- Rugby
- Art Club
- Homework Club
- Chess Club
- Table Tennis
- Drama Club
- Choir
- Code Club
- Hockey
- Rock Band

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PROUD TO GROW • **C**ARE • **A**CHIEVE

See You Soon!

We look forward to welcoming you to Garstang Community Academy in September

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact

info@garstangcommunityacademy.com

