



Montgomery Academy

An Academy within the Fylde Coast Academy Trust

Headteacher: Mr S. Careless BSc MSc NPQH
Senior Deputy Headteacher: Mrs C. Montgomery BSc MSc NPQSL

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Inspiring Excellence Together

20th July 2025

End of Summer term/Start of new academic year in September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you of the arrangements for the end of term on Friday, the start of term arrangements in September, to say a few goodbyes and be up front in clarifying our expectations for the new academic year.

End of term arrangements

On Friday 25th July, all students finish at 12pm. We are having a non-uniform day to raise money for the school's charities. Students that wish to dress in non-uniform on Friday morning will need to bring a £1 donation to be passed to their Progress Tutor in their registration period or assembly. If your son/daughter chooses to wear their own clothes on the day, please ensure they dress appropriately for school, as some students have had to sit in Isolation in previous years. Their 'nonuniform' could be to wear their Montgomery PE kit.

Start of term arrangements for September including start times

The first day of the new academic year for all students is **Wednesday 3rd September 2025**, though we are staggering the start times to allow us to have assemblies and tutor periods with all year groups.

- **The new Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 will need to arrive by 8:45am**
- Year 8 & 9 will come through the Bike Sheds Gate and the new Year 7 through the Science Arches
- **The new Year 10 and Year 11 will need to arrive by 9:15am**
- Year 10 will come through the Bike Sheds Gate and Year 11 through the Science Arches Gate
- All students will finish at the usual finish time of 3pm
- **From Thursday 4th September, all students will need to arrive by the usual time of 8:45am**

Thank you to all members of the Montgomery Family

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, students, parents, carers and governors for their contribution to making this another successful year. We have faced challenges together, such as the cyber attack and yet again shown immense resilience and team spirit. I have highlighted some of our achievements this year in our Summer Newsletter which will be available on our website shortly.

Goodbyes

As we come to the end of the academic year, we say goodbye to the following staff. We thank them for their superb work, long service and each one will be greatly missed:

- Mr Elvin – Cleaning Team/Site Team (Retiring for a second time, he just couldn't stay away)
- Mrs Slinger – Teaching Assistant
- Dr. Hutchinson - Assistant Headteacher in charge of Science (Promoted post within the Trust)



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- Mr. Mason – Teacher of Science
- Miss McGuinness – Data & Exams Manager
- Miss Pezet – Withdrawal Room Manager

Progress Managers of Year 7 and 11 in September

Mr. McArdle will be returning to full-time in September to be Progress Manager of Year 11 supported by Miss Sharpe as Pastoral Manager. Mrs King will be starting the year as Progress Manager of the new Year 7, before starting her maternity leave in October. I would like to thank Mrs King for her superb work this year with the current Year 10. Miss Holden will be supporting Mrs. Campbell, Head of Transition with the new Year 7 from October.

Student organisation

As we prepare to move into the new academic year, it is essential that all students are organised on their return to school in September. At Montgomery, we pride ourselves in being SMART: Safe, mature, ambitious, respectful and thoughtful. Therefore, going forward, every morning in tutor time there will be an equipment check. This links to ambition, showing that students are ready to learn and to work hard. All students need to ensure that they have the following:

- School Bag, Pencil Case, Pen x 2, Pencil, Highlighter, Ruler & Rubber
- Casio FX-83GTCW Scientific calculator, if you can afford it. (Students will need one up to year 11)

If students fail to bring any of the above, they must hand over a personal item (mobile phone), where they will be provided with spare equipment or a spare bag. At the end of the school day, this equipment will be returned to their Progress Manager and their item will be returned.

A reminder that we have now moved away from the traditional school planners. All homework will be recorded on Class Charts so parents/carers can access what is due/has been submitted. If you require your Class Charts log in, please contact Mr Hegarty (r.hegarty@montgomery.fcat.org.uk)

Uniform Standards/Reminders – Mr. Shillitoe

We want to thank all students and parents/carers for their support and co-operation this term with regards to standards.

As we look ahead to the start of next term it is the appropriate time to remind you of our high uniform standards. Full details can be found at: <https://montgomeryschool.co.uk/Information/uniform>.

Please make sure you have read all uniform guidance, in particular the guidance on suitable footwear.

Shoes: Students must wear black shoes (no training shoes, no white/coloured soles, no stripes, no piping, no logos, no boots) that conform to the expectations set on our website under acceptable school footwear.

The link below illustrates what is acceptable footwear for Montgomery. I would strongly suggest that you check carefully the published guidelines before purchasing a new pair and do not rely on your child's



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opinion of what is acceptable. This could save you time and extra money if a wrong pair is bought. Shoes can be purchased for under £20 and we will look to support those in genuine financial difficulty where possible. Only students who have brought in a medical letter will be allowed to wear trainers. We will still provide shoes in exceptional circumstances. Footwear must not be trainers or resemble pumps.

https://files.schudio.com/montgomeryhighschool/files/Acceptable_shoes_guidance.pdf

Montgomery V-neck jumpers are optional, but should be worn under blazers and not in place of a blazer. If students wear an outdoor coat to school, they must not be worn in dining rooms or classrooms. Hoodies are not allowed in school and shouldn't be worn instead of a suitable outdoor coat.

Skirts: The length of skirts should be just above the knee and they should not be rolled up at the waist.

Jewellery: Changes that have been put in place with regards to jewellery have been met in a positive and respectful manner. Following feedback from parents/carers, students and staff, we have refined the wording with regards to jewellery, with specific focus on acceptable piercings:

- **1 pair of plain, small gold or silver studs (ear lobes only)**
- 1 wristwatch (excluding exams)
- No facial piercings (including nose, lip, tongue or eyebrow piercings)
- No rings, bracelets or necklaces
- No plastic/see through temporary piercings/retainers or covering plasters

We now wish to inform you of **one further significant change** with regards to standards. From September 2025, our uniform policy will now include the following:

- No fake nails of any kind (e.g., acrylic, gel)
- No nail varnish

Not only will this change further support our high expectations with regards to standards, it also removes a significant risk with regards to health and safety, and the wearing of fake nails around school and in practical subjects such as PE and Design Technology.

If you wish for your child to get a facial piercing during the summer holidays then please ensure that it is done at the very start of the holiday, so that they will be able to remove it on their first day back of term on Wednesday 3rd September.

Make up: Makeup must be minimal and natural, with no false eyelashes. Any students not conforming to this will be asked to remove their make-up.

Hair: Hairstyles must be suitable for the academy environment.

- If hair is dyed, only naturally coloured dyed hair is acceptable - no other dyed colours or streaks
- Tramlines or shaved head designs are not acceptable
- Plain simple hair bands or hair slides (no flowers, no scarves). Hijabs should be plain black or maroon.



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Students may be placed within isolation until the situation is resolved.

Mobile Phone Reminder: Mobile phones have been banned in school for nine years. Phones should not be seen or heard onsite. Students should not get their phone out until they leave the school premises.

We will be continuing with the mobile phone policy implemented this year. Students whose phones are seen or heard will hand in their phones at the start of the next 5 days to their Progress Manager.

Headphones: Headphones are banned in school and should not be seen onsite.

Phones and headphones will be confiscated, if seen, for collection at the end of the school day

With regards to all of the above, members of the SLT reserve the right to challenge what they consider to be unacceptable in terms of standards. We are committed to supporting all our students to meet these expectations. Together, we can uphold the high standards that contribute to a safe, successful, and supportive school environment for everyone. **Thank you for continued support in this area.**

Attendance & Punctuality

Excellent attendance is vital and the link to successful academic progress is very well evidenced. With this in mind it is essential that all students attend school on time on a daily basis with a positive attitude to their learning. Students need to be punctual to both school and their lessons. Students who are late to lessons or over five minutes late to school will receive a 1-hour detention. Students who are slightly late on three occasions will also receive the same detention. Therefore, we now ask that if your child is feeling unwell, that you do your best to send them to school.

All holidays in term time will be unauthorised. Fixed penalty notices will be utilised for requests of 5 days or more, even if attendance is 100%. In FCAT, we expect parents to utilise school closure times for holidays. In very exceptional circumstances, holidays may be authorised by the Headteacher.

Student reward events run at the end of each term, these celebrate the ambition of students who have shown consistently good effort, including the consistent completion of homework. Students who score an average effort grade of 3.75+ are invited to join their year group in various events throughout the year.

As last year, I apologise for the length of this letter, but it is best for everyone involved to be crystal clear about our expectations from the start of the new academic year.

Have a great Summer break.

Kindest regards,

Mr. Careless
Headteacher