



# TARLETON ACADEMY

Headteacher: Mr S Parker

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

## End of Term Update

### Letter in Summary

- A **fantastic term of continued growth**, including Wonderful Work showcases, strong parental engagement, the launch of the Endeavour Thrive consultation and recognition through national awards
- **Attendance has improved significantly across the school**, with Year 8 leading the way; attendance resets after Easter ahead of the summer reward trip
- A renewed **focus on reading for pleasure**, with all Year 7, 8 and 9 students expected to carry a reading book and school bag each day
- **Summer uniform expectations** remain, with tailored black school shorts introduced as an optional addition for the summer term
- **Free School Meal vouchers** will cease after Easter, with the HAF programme continuing to support families over holiday periods
- **Year 11 students praised for their commitment** as they enter their final weeks and prepare for the summer examinations

I would like to begin by wishing all families a very happy Easter as we approach our final day of term and take the opportunity to reflect on what has, once again, been a fantastic term at Tarleton Academy.

This term has seen continued growth and development across the school. We have been proud to launch our weekly Wonderful Work showcases, celebrating the quality and pride in students' work. We have also hosted five parents' evenings, all of which have seen some of the highest levels of family engagement we have experienced. In addition, we were delighted to launch our consultation on Endeavour Thrive, a specialist SEND provision at Tarleton Academy that reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusive practice. We are also incredibly proud to have been nominated for Secondary School of the Year at the TES Awards and are eagerly awaiting the outcome of the shortlisting process. Alongside this, it was a real privilege for our Trust to be named Trust of the Year at the Educate Awards, recognising the collective growth and development taking place both at Tarleton Academy and across Endeavour Learning Trust.

### Attendance Celebration

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all families for your continued support in improving attendance this term. We have seen a significant uplift in attendance across the school, including a notable reduction in requests for term-time holidays. This is making a real difference to students' learning and their overall experience in school. In particular, I would like to congratulate our Year 8 students, who have demonstrated a remarkable improvement in attendance, reaching as high as 98% at points during this half term. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects a strong collective commitment from both students and families.



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Attendance remains a shared responsibility, and it is vital that we continue to work together to ensure that every student benefits fully from the wide range of opportunities available in school.

As we return after the Easter break, attendance will reset in preparation for our summer reward programme. This will once again include an invitation to Blackpool Pleasure Beach towards the end of term for those students who meet the required thresholds.

### **Student Equipment and Books**

At Tarleton Academy, we place a strong emphasis on the importance of reading, both as a core academic skill and as a source of enjoyment. Over recent years, we have invested significantly in our library provision and in targeted reading interventions to ensure that all students can access high-quality reading materials. Following the Easter break, we will be refining our tutor programme to place a greater emphasis on reading for pleasure during the school day. This will also enable form tutors to dedicate more focused time to mentoring students around key areas such as attendance and student leadership. As part of this development, all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be expected to carry a reading book with them each day.

We are increasingly seeing students arrive without a school bag, and it is important that we re-establish this expectation to ensure all students are prepared for learning. Where access to a suitable reading book may be a barrier, students are encouraged to make use of the school library or to speak with their form tutor, who will be happy to support them.

Alongside this, it is essential that all students arrive at school fully equipped and ready to learn. This includes bringing key equipment such as a pen, pencil and ruler, as well as their Yondr pouch each day. Where a Yondr pouch has been lost or damaged, replacements must be purchased via the Arbor shop.

### **Summer Uniform Expectations**

As we approach the summer term, I would like to remind families that full school uniform remains the expectation. Where temperatures begin to rise, we will make sensible adjustments and communicate these clearly with students. This may include occasions where ties can be removed or where blazers are not required.

Following feedback gathered through our student voice activities, we are introducing a small but important adjustment to our uniform policy. From the start of the summer term, all students will have the option to wear tailored black school shorts. These must be formal, tailored shorts in line with our uniform standards; sports shorts or non-uniform alternatives will not be permitted.

This will not operate as a day-by-day decision. Instead, students may choose to wear tailored shorts consistently throughout the summer term. Our uniform expectations will then return to full trousers for all students in September as we move into the autumn term.

### **Free School Meal Vouchers**

The Department for Works and Pensions Household Support Fund (HSF) grant, which covers the cost of Free School meal vouchers during school holiday periods, will no longer do so following the upcoming Easter holiday period. As a result, vouchers for the period of the upcoming Easter holiday period will be the last provided. Each eligible pupil/student will be issued with £30 in vouchers to cover the holiday period. Once issued, vouchers will be valid for 3 months and will then expire.

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme will however continue to operate within the local area, providing pupils/students with food and physical activities during the school holidays. More information about the HAF programmes can be found here: <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/school-holiday-activities/>

As always, as a school, we are here to support your child as much as possible and will ensure that information about HAF programmes in our area are signposted on our social media pages. If you require any further support in relation to this information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

### **Year 11 Final Push**

At this stage in the year, our attention naturally turns to our much-valued Year 11 cohort as they approach the final weeks of their time at Tarleton Academy. They have demonstrated real commitment and resilience, working diligently in lessons and engaging fully with the wide range of additional sessions and interventions provided by staff. This sustained effort places them in a strong position as they move towards the start of the summer examination series.

We are incredibly proud of the way in which this cohort has approached this important period and are confident that they will represent both themselves and our wider school community with distinction. On behalf of everyone at Tarleton Academy, I would like to wish them every success as they enter their final weeks of study and begin their examinations.

### **Key Dates**

<b>Return to School</b>	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
<b>Year 8 Vaccinations</b>	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>Sports Awards at the Waterfront Hotel</b>	Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
<b>Year 10 Work Experience</b>	Week Commencing 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>Spring Half Term</b>	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>Year 10 Mock Exams</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>Key Stage 3 Core Exams</b>	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>Community Drop In</b>	Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>Year 11 Prom</b>	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>Final Day of Summer Term</b>	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026 – 12:35 early finish

When we return after the Easter break, we are delighted to be welcoming several new colleagues to Tarleton Academy. We are pleased to welcome Mr Loughlin as Curriculum Leader for Music and Mrs Forster as Curriculum Leader for Drama. Both bring a wealth of experience from the creative industries, alongside a strong track record of developing successful Performing Arts provision in their previous schools. We also welcome Mr Hyde, who joins us as a Teacher of History, as we wish Ms Garrett all the very best as she begins her maternity leave. In addition, we are very pleased to welcome Mr Goddard back to Tarleton Academy as Head of Year 10. Having previously trained with us, Mr Goddard was highly regarded by both students and staff, and we are excited to have him return to our school community.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school community. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026** as we embark on another term together.

Yours faithfully,



Mr S Parker  
Headteacher