



11th July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Like many of you, the school is being impacted by the **cost of living crisis**. We're particularly concerned about the increasing cost of **school meals**. Due to shortfalls in funding, we anticipate needing to spend more of our budget to subsidise these meals, ensuring all children continue to receive a nutritious lunch.

While this is the right thing to do, it unfortunately means we may have to **reduce some other services or support** we currently offer. We understand this is a difficult time for many families, and we truly appreciate your **patience and understanding** as we navigate these pressures.

To help us manage, we kindly ask for your **prompt payment** for services like our nursery, school trips, and any other activities. Timely payments make a real difference to our ability to keep things running smoothly.

Thank you for your continued support as we head into what will be a challenging but equally dedicated year for our school community.

[What have we been up to this week?](#)

We are very pleased to share that our Key Stage 2 SATs results this year are excellent. The outcomes show that many of our children have met national standards across all subjects and we have achieved an impressive 10% above national standards in the combined Reading, Writing, and Maths measure. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work and commitment of our children, staff, and families. While we are extremely proud of these outcomes, we know that these tests only tell part of the story. SATs do not measure the kindness, resilience, creativity, or helpfulness that your children show every day. These qualities matter just as much — and at Unity, we see them shining just as brightly as any test result.

This week marked the final Year 6 transition visit from Westminster Primary School with our own Year 6, and we were proud to see our Year 11 prefects playing such an important role in supporting our future students. To thank them for their hard work and leadership, the prefects were invited to a special breakfast with Mr Connolly. In addition to their transition duties, several of our prefects have also been busy preparing their presentation videos as part of the application process for Head Student roles. These will be shared with students next week ahead of the vote.

Year 10 has had a particularly full and enriching week. They completed the final module of their Compass curriculum and took part in their second Science Super Learning Day on Friday, deepening their knowledge through practical and immersive experiences. They also visited the Sixth Form Centre to explore future career pathways and begin thinking about their next steps.

We also welcomed families for Parents' Evening on Thursday, with Year 7, 8 and 10 students receiving valuable feedback and recognition for their progress so far. Thank you to all staff involved in making these events such a success.



After several amazing career events and visits this term, we would like to invite parents/ carers of students in years 7 to 10 to complete the short survey linked below. This will ensure that we are able to adjust our careers program to meet the needs of all of our secondary school students. [Click Here](#)

A special mention goes to Esme J in Y1 who has been growing her hair for the Princess Trust who make wigs for children with cancer. She wanted to provide her hair to help a child and we are unbelievably proud of her. Esme raised a fantastic £270 for the Princess Trust. Well done!



Year 5 held their Shakespeare performance this week and their interpretation of A Midsummer Night's Dream was quite simply phenomenal! The children spoke so confidently, sang beautifully and behaved excellently! It brought a tear to Mrs Shaw's eye who saw them as the Reception children they once were. Let's face it, it doesn't take much to make her cry though! We are incredibly proud of all the children for performing a Shakespeare play at such a young age. This is another example of how ambitious our curriculum is at Unity. Thanks must go to all staff involved in the production!

[New Messages](#)

Ready, Respectful, Safe

This week in our Primary RRS (Ready, Respectful, Safe) behaviour curriculum, we talked about the importance of '**Navigating Change**'. We used the beautifully illustrated book *The Path* by Bob Staake to help children think about how life can take us in different directions — sometimes planned, sometimes unexpected. Through our Monday assembly and class discussions and activities, our children explored how to handle change in a positive way, make good choices, and stay true to themselves when things feel uncertain. Most importantly, we talked about how change can be a chance to try new things, learn from mistakes, and become even stronger. Next week we will begin to reflect on this academic year and the successes the children have had.

This week in the secondary phase, we continue to strengthen our culture of high expectations by embedding our *Ready, Respectful, Safe* (RRS) principles into every aspect of school life.

From September, all students in Years 7 to 11 will enter and leave school via the rear gates on Milford Avenue. This new routine is part of our ongoing commitment to a calm, safe, and consistent school day in line with our **Ready, Respectful, Safe** expectations.

A key part of being **Ready** is arriving on time and fully prepared for learning. All students must be on site and ready for **line-up at 8:40 am**. This means arriving promptly, with the correct equipment and uniform, and ensuring mobile phones are securely stored in their **Yondr pouches**, in line with our phone policy.

Students will be fully prepared for this change through **assemblies and form time next week**, where the new routine and expectations will be clearly explained.



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If this change causes any difficulty—for example, if a student needs to accompany a younger sibling in Year 4 or below—parents and carers are encouraged to contact the school to discuss alternative arrangements.

Uniform standards—such as the Unity jumper and plain black footwear—continue to be reinforced to support a cohesive and focused environment. Of course, in the warmer weather, students are permitted to remove their jumpers during lessons, ensuring they remain comfortable and ready to learn.

We are also committed to celebrating positive behaviour and achievement. From tutor time recognition to weekly assemblies and half-termly rewards, we ensure that students who consistently meet and exceed expectations are recognised and valued.

Our strong home-school partnerships remain vital. Through regular text updates, we share praise and address concerns in a timely, transparent way, ensuring families are kept fully informed and actively involved in their child's journey at Unity Academy.

[Repeated Messages](#)

Sun Safety

A little reminder not to forget to apply sun cream to your child in the morning before school. We do suggest the 12-hour creams so that you can ensure your child is covered correctly. Primary staff can support but cannot directly apply sun-cream to children and that's why we ask that it is applied at home. We are sure you can imagine that applying sun-cream to 30 children is very time-consuming and our main focus, along with their welfare of course, is curriculum delivery! A sun hat is also recommended - the ones that cover the back of the neck are particularly useful. Children have access to fresh drinking water every day in school but a named water bottle is also a good idea. As we are now in the Summer Term, children are invited to wear the Summer uniform. Please see the uniform details at the bottom of the primary newsletter.

Inset Day 21st July 2025

On Monday 21st July, Unity Academy will be closed to all pupils (Nursery through to Year 11) for an additional INSET day for staff. We're sharing this information in advance to help parents and carers make any necessary childcare arrangements. INSET days are an important part of ensuring your child receives the highest quality education by giving staff the time to plan, train and prepare effectively for the year ahead. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. A physical letter will be sent home to parents and carers regarding INSET, alongside a message via MCAS.

[Standing Messages](#)

Primary Newsletter (Primary Parents/ Carers) - Please click [here](#) to view the primary newsletter.



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My Child at School App (All Parents/ Carers)

Please [click here](#) for a link to the site. If you access this on a mobile device, you can access the links for the apps.

If you have not signed up, please download the app from the relevant app store and click 'sign up' and use the school postcode (FY2 0TS) or school ID (14676) to register. You must register with the email address we hold on our system for you. Parents are now able to access attendance information on the My Child at School app.

UPDATE - Behaviour reports (Positive and Negative) are now available on MCAS for parents following some technical issues.

Reporting Bullying/ Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)

The link to raise a concern remains on the website. Click on the three lines and choose to raise a pastoral/bullying concern under the parents heading. These concerns are reviewed by the senior team and allocated to the most appropriate member of staff to investigate and communicate with parents.

Online Safety Support for Parents/ Carers (All Parents/ Carers)

Click [here](#) to access the link to this week's online safety guide for parents. You can also sign up for The National College for free and view a wide range of resources and videos to support your family with online safety. To do this follow the link below:

Sign up tutorial video - <https://help.nationalcollege.com/parent-walkthrough>

Sign up for The National College - <https://nationalcollege.com/enrol/unity-academy-blackpool>

Yours sincerely,



Mr. J. Connolly
Acting Headteacher