



12th January 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a pleasant break over Christmas and New Year. It has been great to see students back this week in school. There is a lot of very important information in the update this week; please read it carefully.

### **Ofsted Monitoring Visit - Final Report (All Parents/ Carers)**

I am pleased to be able to provide parents/carers with a copy of the final report following a monitoring inspection that Ofsted carried out at the end of last term. This report will be published on the Ofsted website shortly and a copy has been sent alongside this letter. Click [here](#).

We are very pleased with the feedback received which indicates that we are making good progress towards making the necessary improvements identified at the last full inspection. The HMI was very complimentary about the work we have done and the students who she spent time with on the day. If anyone would like to discuss this report in any further detail with someone at the academy, please do not hesitate to contact us via the admin email address noted above.

### **Parent Governor Election (All Parents/ Carers)**

I am pleased to say that following an election amongst parents, Stephanie Bradley was duly elected to serve as a parent governor on our local governing body. My grateful thanks to Stephanie for the time she will volunteer in service to the academy and also to the other parents who put themselves forward for election.

### **Primary Lunch - Price Increase (Primary and Nursery Parents/ Carers)**

For some years the academy has kept the price of lunches for those paying for lunch in primary years at the same amount, despite increases in the charges to us during the same time. Blackpool Council notified us this week of their intention to raise prices further from 1st April 2024. Sadly we will no longer be able to absorb the increase and must therefore increase costs in line with the increases we are facing. It is important to note that the academy does not make any money on these meals as we also pay a fee to Parent Pay for each purchase.

I am therefore giving notice that from 1st April 2024, primary paid meals will rise to £2.50 per day and nursery paid meals will rise to £2.10. This does not affect children who do not pay for meals nor have we been informed of any planned increases to secondary meal prices.



### **Wow Moments in School this Week (All Parents/ Carers)**

The Wow moments for this week are below. Well done to everyone involved.

- A number of visitors to school this week have been very complimentary about the year 7 students in school.
- Year 11 students worked with Humanutopia on Thursday and received their mock exam results during the day. They all worked really well with the group.
- Holly, Jenet, Senith and Aleksandra produced amazing designs for the Unity Christmas card at the end of last year.
- A number of students in Y11 have made a great start back to school this week, well done.

### **Bus Route Changes (All Parents/ Carers)**

Blackpool Transport have alerted us to some changes to the bus routes which may affect parents/ carers and children travelling to school. The link to the routes is here - <https://www.blackpooltransport.com/routes>

### **Daily Lunchtime Imposition (Secondary Parents/ Carers)**

Please be aware that a system of daily lunchtime impositions (detentions) will be starting next week as a sanction for any secondary student who is not present in a timetabled lesson or form session without good reason.

The session will be led by senior staff and will run between 1:30PM and 1:55PM each day. Any student who is required to attend the session will be released to obtain their lunch (should they wish to do so) at 1:55PM. This will mean students can get a hot meal should they wish. Students will receive further detail via their Form Tutor next week.

Thank you, in anticipation of your support with this initiative.

### **Accountancy Apprenticeship Opportunity for School Leavers (Parents/ Carers of Y11 Students)**

We have been made aware of this opportunity which we wanted to share with parents/carers of students in Y11. <https://paragonskills.co.uk/vacancy/apprentice-accountant-blackpool-x7-65802ec4d22d2/>

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

We have recently signed up to an online platform that offers online safety videos made specifically for parents/ carers. They are hosted by Myleene Klass and are very short. There is no cost to accessing these.



**UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL**  
Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool,  
Lancashire. FY2 0TS  
**Tel:** 01253 355493

**Email:** [admin@unity.fcat.org.uk](mailto:admin@unity.fcat.org.uk)  
[www.unity.blackpool.org.uk](http://www.unity.blackpool.org.uk)  
**Headteacher:** Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

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>

### **Primary Newsletter**

Click [here](#) to access the Primary Newsletter.

### **Reporting Bullying or Pastoral Concerns (All Parents/ Carers)**

To report any pastoral/ bullying concerns, simply click on 'Menu' and under the 'Parents' heading choose 'Raise a concern' or [click here](#).

### **Reporting Absence (All Parents/ Carers)**

If students are absent from school for any reason, please call the school on the main switchboard number above (01253 355493) to report the absence as soon as possible each day. If this is before the school opens, a message can be left on the answerphone. These are checked daily.

### **And Finally...**

This is a very short term with only 4 weeks left after this week before February half term. An advanced reminder that the academy is closed for staff training on the last Friday of this term - 9th February 2024.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. S. Cooke  
Headteacher



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