



13th June 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

I would like to start this week's message with a big thank you and well done to all of our Year 11 students for the hard work they have put in during the GCSE exam period. With only a couple of exams left to complete next week they can look forward to a well deserved summer break which will start with their Prom next Wednesday. I would also like to thank their parents / carers for all of their support and the staff here at Unity who have helped these students to become the best that they can be.

Update from School Governors on the School's Response to Ofsted

During the meeting on May 22nd Governors were informed of strong progress being made towards more positive outcomes in years 6 and 11, with internal data suggesting that results would improve. There was also information about upcoming changes to the rewards and behaviour systems and how the school was addressing issues related to the conduct of students in school. There was also a recognition that the plan for improvement may need to undergo some changes in response to feedback from the DfE to more clearly exemplify future progress.

The School Governors will update parents about this area following the half-termly governors meetings.

What have we been up to this week?

Phonics Screening and Y4 Multiplication Check have taken place in primary this week. All children who have taken part in these external accountability measures have tried their very best and we are incredibly proud of them! Well done to all!

All primary children had a visit from Bright Bites this week who gave advice on the importance of oral health habits and good dental hygiene. Your child will shortly be coming home with a new toothbrush and toothpaste.

As we end another busy week, we want to thank all secondary students for their continued focus and positivity around school. A special well done goes to our Year 11s, who have now completed their final full week of exams – we are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience, and determination they've shown throughout. Across all year groups, it's been great to see so many of them demonstrating our core values of being *Ready, Respectful, and Safe*, both in and out of the classroom. Let's keep the momentum going as we head into the final weeks of the term.



UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

Warbreck Hill Road, Blackpool,
Lancashire. FY2 0TS
Tel: 01253 355493

Email: admin@unity.fcat.org.uk

www.unity.blackpool.org.uk

Headteacher: Mr S Cooke BSc, NPQH

New Messages

Transition activities

Our program of enhanced transition activities commences on Tuesday 17th June where we invite Y6 students from both Unity and Westminster primaries to experience taster lessons in our secondary classrooms. The timetable has been sent home with your child and is also available through MCAS.

Oxford Trip 19th June 2024

We are excited to share that some of our Year 10 and 11 students have been invited to take part in a prestigious visit to Oxford University next Thursday.

If your child has received an invitation, please ensure their reply slip is returned by Monday 16th to confirm their place.

Ready, Respectful, Safe

This week in our Primary RRS Behaviour Curriculum, we introduced our **Playground Ready, Respectful, Safe expectations** to help all children understand how to make positive choices during playtimes and lunchtimes. Unstructured times are an important part of the school day where social skills, friendships, and independence are developed. By applying our Ready, Respectful, Safe values in the playground, children learn how to play kindly, include others, solve small problems calmly, and move around safely. These expectations support a happy, inclusive environment where every child feels safe and valued — both inside and outside the classroom.

As part of our **RRS (Ready, Respectful, Safe) curriculum next week**, we'll be using the story *Moggy's Coming* by Tim Hodgetts and Andy Thurgood. This age-appropriate resource, produced by **CitizenAID in partnership with the Government Security Office**, helps children recognise when something doesn't feel safe and what to do in those situations. It teaches them to trust their feelings, notice early warning signs, and speak to a trusted adult — helping us prepare children for real-life situations and keep them safe both in and out of school.

This week in secondary, we continue to strengthen the culture of high expectations across our phase by embedding the core principles of **Ready, Respectful, Safe (RRS)** in every classroom, corridor, and communal space. We are committed to ensuring these values are not just known but *lived* by every student, every day.

Readiness remains a key focus—students must arrive on time, with the right mindset and full equipment, including their **Yondr pouch**, which is a required part of their daily school kit. Coming to school fully prepared sets the tone for focused, disruption-free learning.

Our **Respectful** culture is being reinforced through consistent modelling by staff and clear expectations around language, interactions, and conduct. Students are reminded that **earrings must be small studs only**, and **no loops, rings or large jewellery** is permitted in line with our uniform policy.



Unity Academy Blackpool is a trading name of Fylde Coast Academy Trust.
Company Limited by Guarantee No. 8364709 - Registered in England & Wales.
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Safety—both physical and emotional—continues to be a non-negotiable. Our lunchtime reflection for pre-lunch behaviour points provides a clear, consistent consequence that supports student accountability while ensuring wellbeing needs (like eating and toilet use) are respected.

We are also reinforcing our **uniform standards**, which are central to our shared identity. Students must wear a **Unity jumper with the logo** and **plain black footwear**, with no coloured logos, soles, or trims. These standards apply daily and contribute to our calm, purposeful atmosphere.

Positive behaviour continues to be recognised and celebrated. Weekly praise in assemblies and tutor time highlights students who consistently demonstrate RRS values, with half-termly rewards for those who go above and beyond.

Finally, we remain committed to **open communication with families**. Text messages are used to share both positive news and behavioural concerns, helping ensure parents and carers are fully informed and involved in their child's success.

Repeated Messages

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.

Community Hub Space

The Children's learning disability and ADHD service will be delivering their 'tea and talk' sessions the first Friday of each month in our Community Hub. Why not drop in! For further details, see the images at the end of this newsletter!

Message from Mr Cooper

Unity Academy Blackpool is encouraging students, staff, families, and the wider community to collect **plastic milk bottle lids** and bring them into school. These will be used to create a large-scale piece of artwork that highlights the dangers of plastic pollution in our oceans. The finished piece will be proudly displayed in the Houndshell Shopping Centre, Blackpool, helping raise awareness of how everyday waste can impact marine life around the world. Bottle lids (any colour) can be dropped off into clearly marked collection boxes located in **Main Reception**, the **Community Hub**, or **Mr. Cooper's Office**. Every lid counts—please join us in turning waste into something meaningful! We will be collecting plastic milk bottle lids until Friday, 18th July.



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Standing Messages

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

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. S. Cooke
Headteacher



Blackpool Children's Learning Disability and ADHD Team Tea & Talk



For Parents/Carers

Advice &
Support

Networking
with
Parents/Carers

Signposting
Information

Pre-referral
guidance

One Friday a month
9:30am - 11:30am
Please see dates on back
Unity Academy Family Hub
Warbreck Hill Road
Blackpool
FY2 0TS

Contact CYP LD and ADHD team for more
information
0800 121 7762 Option 5



Upcoming Dates 25/26

Friday 4 th July 2025	Friday 6 th February 2026
Friday 5 th September 2025	Friday 6 th March 2026
Friday 3 rd October 2025	Friday 27 th March 2026
Friday 7 th November 2025	Friday 1 st May 2026
Friday 5 th December 2025	Friday 5 th June 2026
Friday 9 th January 2026	Friday 3 rd July 2026