



4th July 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

With all of our future year seven students attending their transition day this week many of our minds are looking towards September and the start of the new school year. We will be sharing lots of new ideas with students and parents in the coming weeks that will signal some changes that are afoot. These changes will go some way to helping support the success and development of everyone linked to Unity and I look forward to sharing more detail with you soon.

### What have we been up to this week?

Pupil Progress Meetings have continued in primary this week, and again, Mrs Shaw has thoroughly enjoyed hearing the teachers talk so passionately about the children in their class and the progress they have made this year. It remains very clear that the relationships between staff and children are very strong!

Primary Moving-Up Day was a success yesterday with all children happily meeting their new teacher in their new classroom. Teachers took the opportunity to share their expectations in regard to children's attitude to learning, behaviour and attendance. They also recapped our school expectations for Ready, Respectful and Safe behaviour both in and out of the classroom.

It's been a busy and rewarding week in the secondary phase at Unity Academy. Year 8 completed their series of workplace encounters, with the final form group visiting local employers this week. On Tuesday, the entire year group took part in a full-day Workplace Encounters Project, giving them valuable insight into a range of career pathways and industries.

Our Year 9 students enjoyed a visit to UCLan as part of their careers programme. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many students feeling inspired and more informed about their post-16 and university options.

This week also marked a significant moment as we said a heartfelt goodbye to our Year 11 students during their leavers' assembly on Wednesday. We are proud of all they have achieved and wish them every success in their next steps and with their results in August.

On Thursday, we welcomed our new cohort of Year 6 students for their transition day. Pupils from local primary schools got a taste of life at Unity Academy, taking part in engaging lessons and getting to know their new environment and teachers. Their enthusiasm and energy were fantastic to see.

Finally, Year 10 wrapped up their Compass Curriculum programme for the year with their final sessions at Blackpool and the Fylde College and Myerscough College on Friday. These experiences continue to broaden their horizons and prepare them for life beyond school. They will spend the next two Fridays on events in school.



## New Messages

### Ready, Respectful, Safe

This week in our Primary RRS (Ready, Respectful, Safe) behaviour curriculum, we focused on the theme of **‘Building a Class Community’**. Children explored what it means to belong to a class team, how we show kindness, include others, and work together respectfully. These important discussions and activities linked closely to our **Moving-Up Day**, where children spent time in their new classrooms getting to know their new teacher and classmates. By building strong, respectful relationships from the start, we hope every child will feel confident, valued, and ready for the year ahead. Next week, we will continue to focus on ensuring that the children feel prepared for transition to their new year group with a focus on **‘Navigating Change’**.

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.

**Being Ready** means students arrive on time, fully equipped, and prepared to learn. This includes having their Yondr pouches and all essential equipment to start each day positively and productively.

**Respect** is fostered through consistent staff modelling, clear expectations around behaviour and language, and adherence to our uniform policy, such as permitting only small stud earrings and no hoops. These standards help reinforce a sense of pride and personal responsibility.

**Safety** remains a non-negotiable priority. We maintain calm and orderly routines, supported by structured consequences like lunchtime reflections that are purposeful and respectful of student wellbeing.

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.



## UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

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Acting Headteacher: Mr J Connolly

### Repeated Messages

#### Primary Parental Report Drop-In

Parents are invited to drop in for an informal chat with class teachers about their child's report on Monday 7th July between 3:15-4pm. This date has been on our calendar dates which are in our parental notice boards at the front of school since the start of the half term. If you are unable to attend this session, please contact your child's class teacher via the school office and I am sure a telephone conversation can be arranged should you need one!

#### 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.

#### Transition activities

Our programme of enhanced transition activities continues, having started on Tuesday, 17th June. Year 6 students from both Unity and Westminster primaries have been enjoying taster lessons in our secondary classrooms, giving them a valuable insight into life at Unity Academy. The timetable was sent home with your child and remains available to view via MCAS.

#### 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.



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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. J. Connolly  
Acting Headteacher