



19th June 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

For the past four years, the Government funded a scheme called the Household Support Fund, which allowed councils to provide supermarket vouchers during the school holidays. The Government has now ended this scheme.

Blackpool Council has stepped in to fund the vouchers out of their own budget for one final **transitional period** to help everyone adjust.

Here is what you need to know about the voucher changes:

- **May Half-Term:** Vouchers will be paid at the current rate of **£3 per day**.
- **Summer Holidays:** Vouchers will be paid at a reduced rate of **£2 per day**.
- **After the Summer:** The Summer holidays will be the final period for voucher support. Unfortunately, the voucher scheme will completely end after this summer.

We know this news may cause worry, but please remember that you are not alone and support is still available:

- **[The Big Food Truck](#):** This is a wonderful community project providing affordable food. You can find more information and see when they are visiting our area by checking [[The Big Food Project website/insert link](#)].
- **[Holiday Activity and Food \(HAF\) Programme](#):** Free holiday clubs that include fun activities and a healthy meal. You can find details on the Council's website.
- **Changes to Free School Meals (from September 2026):** The Government is expanding who can get free school meals during term time. From September, *any* child in a household claiming Universal Credit will be eligible. We hope this helps free up some of your household income during the breaks.
- **Crisis Support:** If your family faces an emergency or financial crisis, you can apply for a crisis payment through the Council's [Crisis and Resilience Fund](#) on their website.

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

This week in primary the teaching team have started their transition meetings in preparation for next year. We do this over a number of weeks to ensure that we provide a well-rounded and detailed handover so that the move into their next year group is as smooth as possible for all involved! Please see the primary newsletter for class organisation for next year - I know this is what you have all been waiting for!

Well done to all children who represented Unity at Youth Games this week. 52 children entered the road race and Mia H came 1st in the Year 2 girls race.





Some Year 6 children took part in their Reward Trips this week and last week. These were awarded to children who took full advantage of our precision tutoring sessions and earned their attitude to learning credits by being in school on time, every day, managing their behaviour well and completing home learning. Well done to everyone who secured a place on one of our trips - we hope you had a fantastic time!

As part of our RRS curriculum this week, we used 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. Next week we will move onto a focus on equity vs equality in a bid to help the children understand that some children need a little bit of extra support in school - this could be provided by extra time, staff or even by a particular resource but is a means of helping them to access their education.

In the secondary phase this week, our Ready, Respectful, Safe curriculum has focused on the theme of achievement, encouraging students to reflect on the importance of effort, perseverance and taking pride in their successes, both inside and outside the classroom.

Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have also been practising their new line-up positions in preparation for September. We have introduced these arrangements early to ensure students become familiar with the routines and expectations before the start of the new academic year. By rehearsing these procedures now, we can make the transition in September as smooth and efficient as possible, helping to maximise learning time from day one.

Finally, Year 11 students completed their final GCSE examination on Monday, bringing a long and demanding exam season to a close. Last night, many of them celebrated together at their Prom, marking the end of an important chapter in their school journey. We are incredibly proud of their resilience, maturity and commitment throughout the examination period and wish them every success as they await their results.

### [New Messages](#)

The primary team would kindly ask for your cooperation in ensuring that children do not bring toys into school from home. Recently, we have noticed a significant increase in the number of fidget toys being brought in. While we understand these can be popular, we unfortunately cannot guarantee their safety and they can easily become lost, damaged, or cause distractions in the classroom. Please be assured that if a child requires a fidget toy or specific sensory resource to support their learning, this will be formally assessed and clearly stated on their Individual Learning Plan and the school will provide the necessary resources. Thank you so much for your support in keeping our classrooms safe and focused on learning!



## UNITY ACADEMY BLACKPOOL

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Acting Headteacher: Mr J Connolly

If your child has borrowed any of our school uniform can you please ensure that it is returned as our spares store is extremely low and we will end up having to ring parents to come and change their child soon. If you have any donations of old school uniform or even any packs of underwear that your child hasn't used, please send them into school. Thank you

### 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, 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, and behaviour reports (Positive and Negative) are now also available.

### **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