

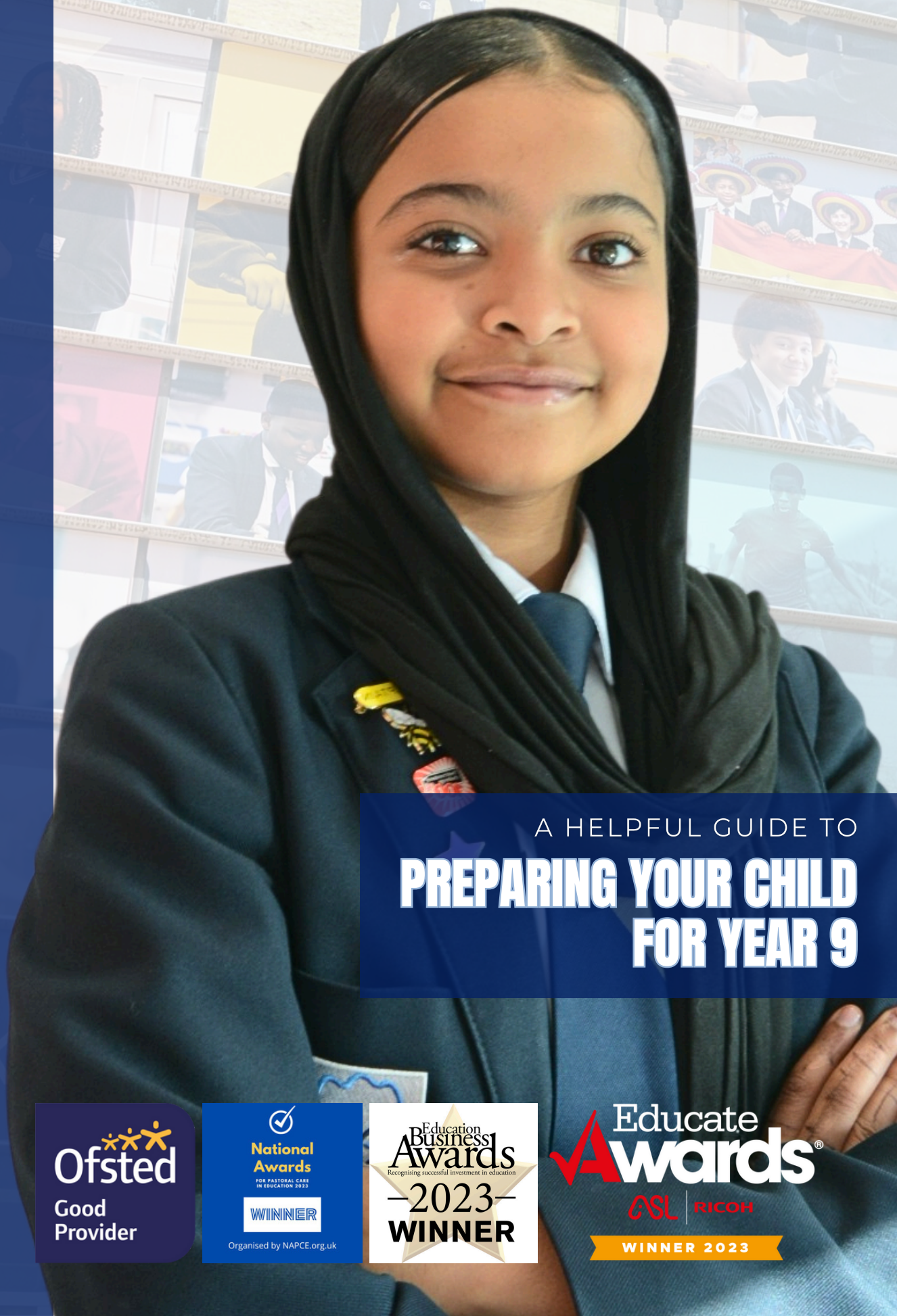
READY FOR SEPTEMBER 2025



Manchester Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning



A HELPFUL GUIDE TO
**PREPARING YOUR CHILD
FOR YEAR 9**

Ofsted
Good
Provider


**National
Awards**
FOR PASTORAL CARE
IN EDUCATION 2023

WINNER

Organised by NAPCE.org.uk

**Education
Business
Awards**
Recognising successful investment in education
—2023—
WINNER

**Educate
Awards®**
ASL | RICOH

WINNER 2023



Year Director Miss Sandford



My name is Miss Sandford, and I am proud to serve as the Year 9 Director here at Manchester Academy. At our school, we are deeply committed to nurturing well-rounded individuals who grow not only in their academic achievements, but also in their behaviour, cultural awareness and character. Year 9 is a pivotal stage for our students, as they begin to take greater ownership of their future by selecting their GCSE options. We recognise that the transition from Year 8 to Year 9 is a significant step, and I want to reassure you that our dedicated team of teachers and support staff are here to guide and encourage every student along the way.

At Manchester Academy, we offer a world-class education built on a foundation of high expectations and outstanding behaviour. We expect our students to demonstrate respect in all their interactions—within school and in the wider community. Developing positive habits, taking responsibility, and showing integrity are central to our approach, and we greatly value the continued support of parents in reinforcing these principles at home. I very much look forward to meeting you all this September and working together to ensure a successful and rewarding year ahead.

Year Leader Mr Gill



My name is Mr Gill, and I'm proud to be the Year Leader for Year 9 at Manchester Academy. With nine years of experience supporting young people through this crucial stage of their education, I've seen first-hand how transformative this year can be—not just academically, but in terms of personal growth, responsibility, and maturity.

At Manchester Academy, we focus on shaping students into well-rounded individuals who value respect, integrity, and accountability. Year 9 marks a key turning point: students begin to take real ownership of their futures as they make decisions about their GCSE subjects. This transition from Year 8 can feel like a big leap, but I want to assure you that we provide strong support every step of the way. Our staff are dedicated to creating an environment where high expectations are clear and consistent, and where students are guided to make positive choices each day.

We are proud of the excellent behaviour standards we uphold—our students know what is expected of them, both in school and within the wider community. Developing good habits, building character, and showing respect to others are non-negotiables here, and we work closely with families to make sure these values are reinforced at home.

It's a privilege to work with the young people of this community, and I'm genuinely looking forward to the year ahead. I look forward to meeting you in September as we work together to ensure Year 9 is a successful and meaningful chapter in your child's journey.



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Education with Character

At Manchester Academy, we do all we can to ensure our students have a happy and successful future. We believe that children need many opportunities and experiences to become confident, well-rounded, and ambitious young adults.

Each student, parent, and adult in the school community has a responsibility to ensure all our students are safe, happy, and enjoy a positive learning environment at all times.

Extra-curricular clubs and societies allow young people to pursue new interests such as languages, sports, and team building activities. The academy also supports the Duke of Edinburgh Award. All enrichment activities stretch, challenge, and help develop the talents of our young people.

In addition to our extra-curricular clubs and societies. Manchester Academy students enjoy a range of trips, university visits, and talks from inspirational speakers.

We're proud to deliver an Education with Character. An education that challenges, inspires, and excites our students and prepares them for the ups and downs of life.





The MA Way:

Make Manchester
Magic

MA1

Students follow staff instructions
first time, every time.

MA2

ATL1 always; everywhere.

MA3

Act and speak with respect
and kindness.

MA4

Hands off!

MA5

Walk quietly on the left.

MA Values:

M

Motivated

A

Academic

G

Global

I

Inclusive

C

Community



MAGIC

- **Motivated** - we are motivated to succeed; eager to learn, take up opportunities and be role models.
- **Academic** - we value learning and the success it helps us achieve.
- **Global** - we are part of a global community so we can navigate and contribute to an interconnected world.
- **Inclusive** - we are seen, heard and valued, everyone is celebrated and part of the MA family.
- **Community** - we support and celebrate our community and represent it with pride.

Make Manchester
Magic



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Our Community

**Manchester Academy students must respect the community
when entering and exiting the school.**

1. Walk sensibly and leave promptly
2. Respect others
3. Respect the property of others
4. Follow all instructions the first time
5. Be an outstanding ambassador for Manchester Academy



- Ardaydu waa inay socdaan uguna baxaan iskuulka si macquul ah.
- امش بحكمة واترك على الفور
- Ixtiraam dadka kale
- احترم الآخرين
- Ixtiraam alaabta dadka kale
- احترم ممتلكات الآخرين
- Raac tilmaamaha ama farriimaha isla markiiba.
- اتبع جميع التعليمات في المرة الأولى
- Tusaale ama metelaad wanaagsan u noqo Manchester Academy.
- كن سفيرًا متميزًا لأكاديمية مانشستر



**Every term we will focus on a different virtue
and Rights Respecting Schools article**

	Autumn	Spring	Summer
UL Virtue	Compassion	Cooperation	Aspiration
Articles	29	30	4

Make Manchester
Magic



High standards of personal appearance are expected at the Academy. All students are to wear the same uniform. We hope parents understand and co-operate with clothing regulations and seeing that they are observed. It's important that children are tidy, well-groomed, and suitably dressed for school activities.

Boys

- Blazer - Manchester Academy blazer with school logo.
- Trousers - Tailored plain black trousers (not cords or jeans).
- Shirt - White (regulation, not a polo shirt).
- Knitted Tank Top with Make Manchester Magic logo (optional).
- Tie - Manchester Academy year group tie.
- Socks - Plain black socks.
- Shoes - Plain black and polishable with a small heel (no coloured or white trims / boots and trainers / trainer type shoes are not allowed).





Girls

- Blazer - Manchester Academy blazer with school logo
- Skirt - Plain black 'A line' knee length skirt or full length plain black trousers
- Shirt - White (regulation, not a polo shirt)
- Knitted Tank Top with Make Manchester Magic logo (optional)
- Tie - Manchester Academy year group tie
- Headscarf - Plain black (if worn)
- Socks - Plain black socks or black tights
- Shoes - Black, flat or small heeled (coloured or white trim - boots, trainers, mules and platforms are not allowed) Please be aware that some shops are selling trainer style shoes as school shoes. These are not acceptable

If a child cannot wear shoes because of a medical reason, then they may be allowed to wear a pair of black trainers. A doctor's note should be provided.





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Our P.E. Kit

Boys (PE Kit)

- Navy t-shirt with Manchester Academy logo
- Plain navy blue or Manchester Academy logo hoodie or zip up jacket
- Plain navy shorts or plain navy tracksuit pants
- Plain blue football socks
- Training shoes

Girls (PE Kit)

- Navy t-shirt with Manchester Academy logo
- Plain navy blue or Manchester Academy logo hoodie or zip up jacket
- Plain navy shorts or plain navy tracksuit pants or navy sports leggings
- Plain blue football socks
- Training shoes

We're no longer selling uniform at Manchester Academy. All uniform items are now available from M.C.S. Stores, 220-222 Fog Lane, Didsbury, Manchester. M20 6EL.

**M.C.S. is open from Monday to Saturday from 11am - 5.30pm. Wednesdays is 1pm - 5pm.
Telephone: (0161) 445 7740 or Email: sales@mcsstores.co.uk**

Manchester Academy uniform can be found on their website:





Personal Appearance:

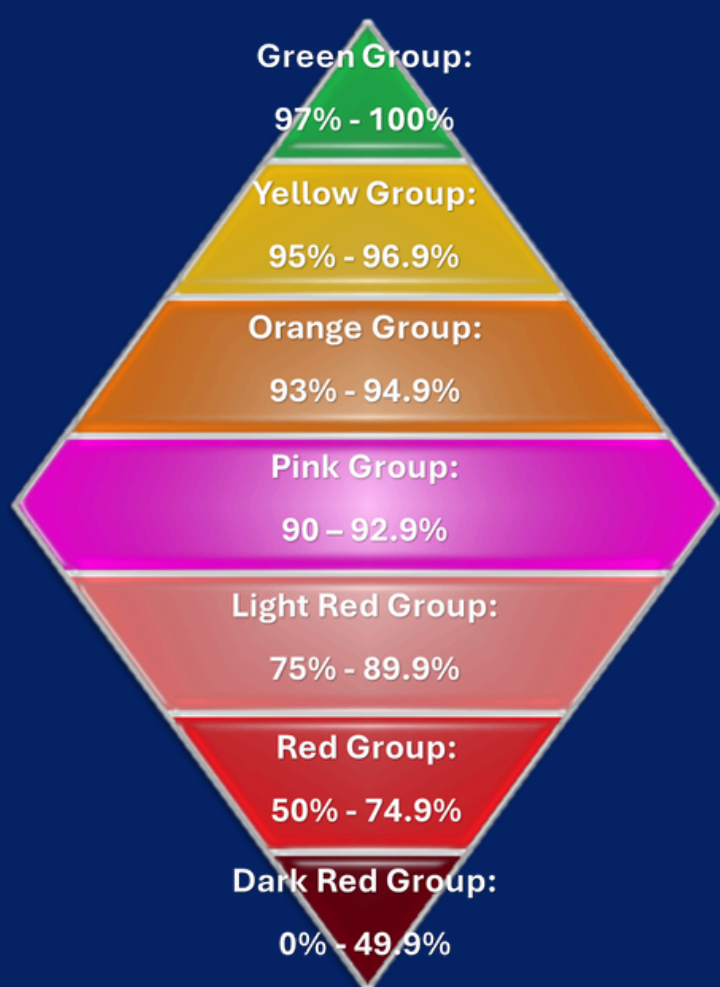
- Makeup and nail varnish are not allowed.
- Extreme hairstyles are not in keeping with our good standard of appearance. Haircuts should not be extreme. Fashionable haircuts such as 'steps,' shaving sides or all of the head, putting lines or patterns in the hair, or other variations on these styles are unacceptable in this school. As a general rule nothing below a 'No. 2' is acceptable for students who prefer this short style. Boys are to be clean shaven with no facial hair.
- Extreme hair colours are not permitted. We expect all pupils to have neat and tidy hair styles and ensure that long hair is tied back. We also request that accessories are kept to a simple black hair slide or black hair band. Headscarves must also be black.
- Jewellery is not allowed, which includes earrings.





Regular attendance and good punctuality are crucial factors for students to achieve their full potential in education. At Manchester Academy, we seek support from parents/carers to ensure your child attends **on time, every day**. We are always pleased to work with you to resolve any difficulties but we are also committed to improving attendance levels.

Target attendance figures for pupils is a **minimum of 97% attendance**. Based on current attendance figures your child will be placed in one of the following groups:



Your child will be informed of their **Attendance Group** by their form tutor. Manchester Academy monitors students whose attendance is falling and will contact you if this does not improve. As a parent/carer you are committing an offence if you fail to ensure that your child attends regularly and punctually. Even if they're missing school without your knowledge. It's important that parents/carers monitor single day absences, these days soon add up to weeks.



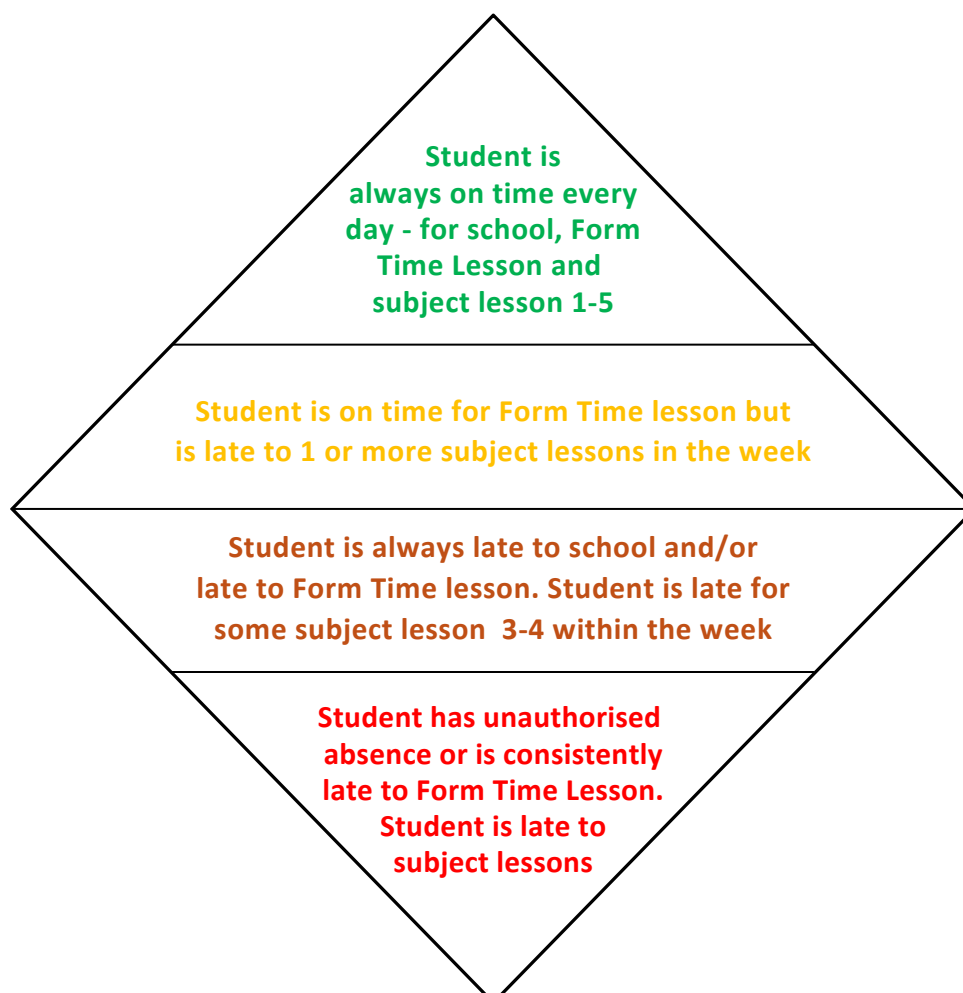
When absent from Form time lesson and/or subject lessons your child is missing important information from staff or outside visitors.

Form time lessons are key to support students in their Personal Development which is linked to Character and Culture lessons, through PSHE and Awareness Days.

Revision skills, personal statements, apprenticeship, and collage information/applications are all part of Form time lessons. Outside visitors may attend assemblies and provide key information to students about careers and work experience.

If your child is late to lessons, they will miss starter activities which link to the main content of each lesson. Subject knowledge and understanding will be missed, effecting independent work, revision in lessons, and independent learning.

There's no excuse for a student at Manchester Academy to be late for school, Form time lessons, or their subject lessons.





At Manchester Academy we **reward** students who **attend every day, on time** and those **improving** their attendance.

If you're concerned about our '**Focus on Attendance**' there are some important steps you can take:

- Ensure your child attends **every day, on time, equipped and ready to learn**. Form time **begins at 8.30am** and all pupils need to be **onsite by 8.20am**. Students arriving after 8.30am may be marked absent and will require a note. A free '**Magic Breakfast**' is available for all students from **8am**.
- Ensure the Academy has **up to date addresses and telephone numbers**. We will contact you if your child is absent and you have not contacted the Academy.
- If your child is ill, contact the Academy on the **first day of absence** and provide a note on their return to the Academy.
- If you wish to check that your child has arrived at the Academy, contact the Academy's **Attendance Officers: Mr Clarke and Mr Campbell**
- If you do not contact the Academy about an absence, it will be **un-authorised**. You will be asked to provide **medical certificates** if your child has a poor attendance record.
- Ensure that medical appointments are made **outside** of Academy time. Holidays should **not** be taken in Academy time. Any Leave of Absence can **only** be agreed by the Principal and where there are exceptional circumstances.
- **Respond** to letters or telephone calls regarding attendance and punctuality.
- Contact your child's **Form tutor** if you're experiencing difficulty with getting them to attend the Academy.

Email our Attendance Officers at: attendance@manchester-academy.org





ATTITUDE TO LEARNING 1 - ATL1 STUDENTS

An ATL 1 learner:

- Follows the MA Way.
- Arrives promptly to lessons and immediately settles in to learning.
- Actively listens to their teachers' explanations, tracking the teacher and the teacher wall.
- Answers questions in a thoughtful manner, responding in full sentences.
- Demonstrates high levels of engagement; there are no aspects of passive learning.
- Frequently contributes their ideas to class discussion and is keen to read aloud in lessons.
- Is well-equipped and well-prepared for learning.
- Shows pride in the presentation of their work.
- Completes IPT to a high standard in every lesson.
- Responds to teachers' feedback in all purple progress and green sheet activities.
- Sensibly exits lessons, wearing correct uniform smartly.

At the end of each half-term, every student is given an ATL Grade for each subject they study. Rewards are given to the Academy's ATL1 Students!





KEY STAGE 3 - KS3

LESSON	START	FINISH
FORM TIME	8.30	9.00
PERIOD 1	9.00	10.00
BREAK	10.00	10.20
PERIOD 2	10.20	11.20
PERIOD 3	11.20	12.20
LUNCH	12.20	13.00
PERIOD 4	13.00	14.00
PERIOD 5	14.00	15.00

YEAR 9 FIRST DAY OF TERM

- Year 9 students start at **8:30am** and will go straight to their forms.
- Your entrance and exit to school is the at **the front of the school - using the gate next to reception to enter the canteen.**
- Your outdoor clothing is to be taken off once inside the building.
- Bring a bag to keep your belongings in - equipment, textbooks, exercise books.
- You should have your own **basic equipment** for lessons - pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener and calculator.
- There is a **one-way system** for all students and staff to follow. Please keep to this one-way system at **all times.**
- You must behave well at all times and follow **The MA Way** at all times!

AUTUMN TERM			
Monday 1st September 2025	INSET DAY 1		Only Staff in School
Tuesday 2nd September 2025	First day of School - Year 7 only		YEAR 7 ONLY IN SCHOOL
Wednesday 3rd September 2025	Back to School (All Other Year Groups)		ALL YEAR GROUPS IN SCHOOL
Friday 24th October	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October 2025			Half-Term
Monday 3rd November 2025	School Re-Opens		All Students Back in School
Thursday 27th November 2025	INSET DAY 2		Only Staff in School
Friday 28th November 2025	PLANNING DAY 1		Only Staff in School
Friday 19th December 2025	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd January 2026			Christmas Holidays
SPRING TERM			
Monday 5th January 2026	First Day of Term		All Students in School
Friday 6th February 2026	PLANNING DAY 2		Only Staff in School
Friday 13th February 2026	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026			Half-Term
Monday 23rd February 2026	School Re-Opens		All Students in School
Monday 30th March 2026	PLANNING DAY 3		Only Staff in School
Tuesday 31st March 2026	INSET DAY 3		Only Staff in School
Thursday 2nd April 2026	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April 2026			Easter Holidays
SUMMER TERM			
Monday 20th April 2026	School Re-Opens		All Students in School
Monday 4th May 2026	Bank Holiday		School Closed
Friday 22nd May 2026	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026			Half-Term
Monday 1st June 2026	School Re-Opens		All Students in School
Friday 17th June 2026	Last Day of Term		All Students in School
Monday 20th July 2026	INSET DAY 4		Disaggregated to Twilight
Tuesday 21st July 2026	INSET DAY 5		Disaggregated to Twilight
BANK HOLIDAY 2025	BANK HOLIDAY 2026		
25th August - Summer Bank Holiday	1st January - New Year's Day	4th May - Early May Bank Holiday	25th December - Christmas Day
25th December - Christmas Day	3rd April - Good Friday	25th May - Spring Bank Holiday	26th December - Boxing Day
26th December Boxing Day	6th April - Easter Monday	31st August - Summer Bank Holiday	...



The following Bus Services run close to Manchester Academy -

More information can be found at www.tfgm.com

Stagecoach Service 15 - Flixton, Davyhulme, Urmston, Stretford, Firswood, Manchester

Go-Ahead Service 18 - Langley, Middleton, Alkrington, Blackley, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Manchester

Go-Ahead Service 41 - Sale, Sale Moor, Northern Moor, Northenden, West Didsbury, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 42 - Stockport, Heaton Mersey, East Didsbury, Didsbury, Withington, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 42A - Reddish, Heaton Chapel, Heaton Mersey, East Didsbury, Didsbury, Withington, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 42B - Woodford, Bramhall, Cheadle, East Didsbury, Didsbury, Withington, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach service 43 - Wythenshawe, Benchill, Sharston Northenden, West Didsbury, Fallowfield, Manchester

Go-Ahead Service 53 - Cheetham Hill, Blackley, Harpurhey, Collyhurst, Beswick, Gorton, Longsight, Hulme, Pendleton

Stagecoach Service 111 - Southern Cemetery, West Didsbury, Withington, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 142 - East Didsbury, Didsbury, Withington, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 143 - West Didsbury, Fallowfield, Manchester

Stagecoach Service 147 - Manchester

First Service V1 - Leigh, Tyldesley, Mosley Common, Ellenbrook, Worsley, Swinton, Pendleton, Salford, Manchester

First Service V2 - Atherton, Tyldesley, Mosley Common, Ellenbrook, Worsley, Swinton, Pendleton, Salford, Manchester



Bus Fares Information

Students will need to show an IGO pass to travel at the reduced fare. If students do not have an IGO pass, they will have to pay a higher fare. The IGO pass must be carried on all journeys and shown to the driver before paying the fare.

More information on IGO and an application form to get an IGO pass is on the Transport for Greater Manchester website:



You may be entitled to free travel to and from school if your child is aged 11-16 years old and live more than 3 miles from nearest qualifying school.

Your child may qualify for free travel if they are eligible for free school meals or if the parents receives their maximum level of Working Tax Credit. The following applies:

- They are aged 11-16 years old and live between two and six miles from attended school, if there are not three or more nearer qualifying schools.
- They are aged 11-16 years old and live between two and 15 miles from your nearest school preferred on the grounds of religion or belief.

Further information on eligibility for free school travel may be found at:





At Manchester Academy our department is responsible for coordinating the assessment and support for students with additional educational needs.

We help many students in a variety of ways ranging from in class strategies (universal approach) to more targeted interventions (targeted approach)

Universal Approach

We work closely with the teaching and learning team to make sure that your time in the classroom is valuable and accessible. These are strategies that are available to all.

Examples of these strategies include: using mini whiteboards, having solid routines and structure to lessons, modelling examples before you practice independently.

If there are certain specific strategies that help you with your learning, you will have a Pupil Passport in place which has useful information for teachers and support staff to help you in your learning.

Targeted Approach

For some students it may be appropriate to have some additional support in place. We break these down into the 4 areas of need. These are listed below:

Targeted Approach - For some students it may be appropriate to have additional support in place. We break these down into the 4 areas of need:

Communication and Interaction

- Speech and Language therapy.
- Social skills groups.
- Lego Therapy.
- Personal Life skills, preparing for adulthood and transitions.

Cognition and Learning

- Literacy Vocabulary building.
- Reading and writing programmes e.g. Lexia.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health

- Occupational Therapy.
- Emotional Regulation and Relaxation.
- Art Therapy.
- Mental Health First Aid.
- Pet Therapy.

Sensory and/or Physical Needs

- Sensory aids and support.
- Sensory room and quiet room.
- Sensory circuits.
- Occupational Therapy.



Parents can access important information about their children and request updates to the details we hold for you on our systems via the **Arbor Parent Portal**.

You will receive an email with your unique login details to get started with the app.

If you are having issues with setting up the app, please contact us:

[**arbor@manchester-academy.org**](mailto:arbor@manchester-academy.org)

What information can I see about my child on Arbor Parent Portal?

- Payments - make payments for trips and top up your child's lunch money.
- Attendance Data AM/PM summary and ability to download an attendance certificate.
- Achievement Data - Total achievement points/incidents by year/term.
- Behaviour Data - Total Behaviour points/incidents by year/term.
- Activities Data - Currently displaying school clubs (Eventually to show trips/visits)
- Timetable/Lesson Data - Lesson information for the day and full student timetable.
- Assessment Data - Copies of any reports sent this academic year can be downloaded.
- Exams Data - Schedule of exams at times of the year.
- Student Details - Key contact information and other student details held on Arbor for your child with ability to request changes.
- Student Consents - Displays current consents.
- Independent Learning.

Statistics		
Attendance (2021/2022) 100% 	Behaviour Points - this term 5 This year: 25 points Last term: 20 points	Achievement Points - this term 20 This year: 200 points Last term: 180 points
Positive Behavioural Incidents - this term 2 This year: 16 incidents Last term: 14 incidents	Negative Behavioural Incidents - this term 1 This year: 4 incidents Last term: 3 incidents	



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Contact Us

Address:

Manchester Academy
Moss Lane East
Moss Side
Manchester
M14 4PX

Telephone: 0161 232 1639

Opening hours: 8am-4pm

Email address for enquiries:

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Stacy Marlborough, Office Manager

Year 9 Team:

Nikita.Sandford@manchester-academy.org
Imran.Gill@manchester-academy.org

SENCO:

Mr Matt Verity

Manchester Academy Website:

<https://www.manchester-academy.org/>

Facebook:

Manchester Academy High School

LinkedIn:

Manchester Academy - United Learning

Twitter/X:

McrAcademy

Instagram:

mcracademyschool



If you have any questions about the SEND department, email our SENCO at:

matthew.verity@manchester-academy.org

MAGIC BREAKFAST

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

8:00-8:25

EVERY WEEK!

Fuel for learning, for all our students!

