



**Manchester Academy**  
The best in everyone™  
Part of United Learning

**Newsletter**  
**Jan 2022**

## Our Induction Department among the best in the North West

**We are SO PROUD to be awarded Runners Up in the Educate Awards for our fantastic work with students whose first language is not English - well done to our brilliant specialised Induction Team who do an amazing job improving students' reading ability, vocabulary and writing skills.**

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Manchester Academy has a dedicated Induction Department which runs a programme of lessons for students whose first language is not English ('New International Arrivals'), taught by specialist staff and designed to improve students' reading ability, vocabulary and writing skills.

Students who have struggled to learn the necessary literacy skills before joining us also benefit from this programme, which aims to accelerate students' language skills, so that they can access the full curriculum as quickly as possible. Their transfer to mainstream lessons is facilitated by rigorous assessments methods (half-termly tests and trigger points based on our unique 'steps system').

There are more than 80% EAL students in school, and approximately 70 languages are spoken. The Induction Department was set up around 2011, and is growing each year, with 46 students in 2016-2017 and 71 students in 2019-2020.

We are extremely passionate about our students. We support them with the academic side of school, but also do a lot of pastoral work to help them settle in school as well as in our local community.

Many of our former students achieve their academic potential (by reaching top sets in school, becoming prefects, getting outstanding GCSE results and joining top colleges).



# Welcome from our Principal, Mr Eldon



Dear Parents and Carers,

The Autumn Term saw the return of some of the most important aspects of Academy life – sports fixtures and training, extra-curricular clubs and the chance to go on trips and visits again. We had missed these opportunities and their return reminded everyone of why they're so important. We also returned to more 'normal' school days, after the restrictions of the summer term. It is clear that the COVID pandemic has not gone away, and we are seeing a rise in infection with the Omicron variant, but it was exciting to see students thriving and working hard to keep ahead of their studies following the previous years' lockdowns.

Manchester Academy went from strength to strength, winning awards and being nominated for the prestigious 'EdTech 50' – as one of the best 50 education providers in the country for the work we did to get our students online during the pandemic. Online remains so important to giving students access to innovative revision and learning platforms, and we have now moved our parents' evenings online to protect everyone in these COVID times. We have seen our students' engagement with the digital learning platforms we provide grow hugely and in a number of cases, we have the highest rates of completion in the NW of England. Online is a huge support but our students prefer face to face teaching and as we have done throughout the pandemic, we will work tirelessly to keep the school open for as many students as possible. We have managed not to close the Academy or even a year group bubble so far and I hope that we can continue to maintain an excellent service for our families.

Finally, I want to say a big thank you to the support and kindness shown by you – our families. At the end of the Autumn Term, despite several years of positive publicity and news stories, the Academy experienced a difficult event. We dealt with this swiftly and our students were fantastic, and we continued to move forward. I spoke to many families at this time who were understandably worried but your faith in the school and your support were hugely important and meant so much to me and the staff. We always want to improve and if we make mistakes, we face up to them and get better.

We are also hugely passionate about demonstrating that students from Moss Side, Rusholme and across Manchester can achieve incredible things. Manchester Academy is now such a strong and vibrant school and this success is built upon the support we get from our families, support which has stayed strong throughout the pandemic. We will not let you or your children down in our determination to make Manchester magic every day.

Mr J. Eldon, Principal.

## Students take part in University research project

In November, our Years 8, 9 and 10 students took part in a Manchester Metropolitan University research project Micreate, where they tried out two digital apps designed to help support the integration of migrants.

Our students were asked to provide their expert opinions on the apps and what could be done to improve them.

Head of MFL Ms Baksh said they did a great job and provided invaluable feedback to researchers, helping to create resources aimed at young people.



## Extra Curricular Activities are back!

After so long without being able to offer an extra-curricular timetable, we now have a wide range of fun activities happening every night after school. The new Spring term timetable is available on our website and we expect all our students to get involved. We are also opening the library for students to complete independent study in school, if they would prefer to do this than complete the work at home.



We try and listen to what our students want, for example we are setting up an indoor cricket league after interest from the children.

If your child has an idea or a request please ask them to speak to their Director of Culture and Character.

We might not be able to make it happen instantly but we will do our best to sort something out.

## We welcomed Manchester Labour MP Lucy Powell

We were delighted to welcome Manchester Central Labour MP & Shadow Secretary of State for Housing Lucy Powell who met our students in September.

She had a tour around school with Mr Eldon and took part in lively discussions with our Year 7s and Year 11 students about various topics, including politics, the Covid-19 lock-down and how it's affected education, and she also listened to our students' aspirations for the future.

Mrs Powell said: "It's great to hear about the aspirations the students have for themselves and how they're really confident they're going to achieve that here at Manchester Academy. They want to be doctors, lawyers, engineers, and I have every confidence that they'll go on to achieve those careers here at Manchester Academy.

"The school has gone under a great deal of improvement and change over recent years and I was delighted to have a look around the school, meet the students and the teachers and hear about the great improvement they've been making here at Manchester Academy and I look forward to be coming back again in the future."

We're glad Mrs Powell enjoyed seeing our incredible transformation!



## School Council meetings are up and running again

Our School Council meetings resumed in October with the first featuring a lively discussion about various topics, including Manchester Academy Learning Values, social times within the Academy, and highlighting our greatest strengths as a school - by looking at how we Make Manchester Magic.



These were the three most important issues the School Council thought should be addressed this academic year.

The meeting was chaired by Vice Principal Mrs McMullen and our VIP guest was our Chair of Governors Mrs Breckell who said students were "well informed, eloquent and respectful".

Mrs Breckell added the students were fantastic role models.

"They made their points well about important issues to the student body and were passionate when expressing their ideas. The students represented their year groups so well and I am looking forward to hearing how they feedback our discussions to their peers."

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# YEAR 7

## *a day at the pantomime*



## Back of the net!

# Our football facilities get a massive revamp

Our students and local residents are set to benefit from significant investment into football after Manchester Academy was awarded a six-figure grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation, to upgrade our current sports facilities.

A grant of £348,000 has been secured by the Football Foundation and the Manchester FA to refurbish the school's existing 3G pitch and to completely upgrade the facility, which will continue the Academy's ongoing improvement.

The refurbishment will enable Manchester Academy to continue to provide a top-quality environment for their students to develop their football and sports skills in PE lessons and after school clubs. Local residents and sports teams will also have the opportunity to hire the world-class facilities outside of school hours.

James Eldon, Principal at Manchester Academy, said: "We are massively grateful to the Football Foundation for investing in Moss Side through their generous contribution to our sports facilities. Our new football centre will enable us to provide a top-class sporting education for our students.

"Many of our students are passionate about sport and we recognise the impact such amazing facilities can achieve. We can't wait for the project to be completed so that Moss Side and Rusholme can 'Make Manchester Magic' in the heart of our community."

Robert Sullivan, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "This grant award to Manchester Academy is great news for the local community.

"It will support people's ability to play our national game locally and therefore help unlock

football's many benefits to physical and mental wellbeing. That's why we're committed to transforming the face of grassroots football facilities in this country. It's therefore very welcome news to hear that this funding will support Manchester Academy in developing their 3G pitch for their local community.

"The Football Foundation is working closely with our partners – the Premier League, The FA, government and Sport England – support facility development projects like this across the country over the next decade to transform our grassroots

game and unlock the power of pitches."

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity and exists to improve the experience of playing football for everyone, by championing fair access to quality facilities.



# Design your own Christmas Jumper Competition 2021 Winners!

Our Christmas Jumper Competition was open to Year 5 & 6 children from our partner primary schools. These are the fabulous winning jumpers!



# Term Dates

Term Dates		
Spring Term 1	Return to school	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022
	School Closes	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
	<b>Spring Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 21st February to Friday 25th February</b>
Spring Term 2	Return to School	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2022
	School Closes	Friday 1st April 2022
	<b>Easter Break</b>	<b>Monday 4th April to Friday 15th April</b>
Summer Term 1	Return to School	Tuesday 19th April 2022
	<b>May Day Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Monday 2nd May 2022</b>
	<b>INSET Day 4 (Eid) Planning Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 3rd May 2022</b>
	School Closes	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2022
	<b>Summer Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3rd June 2022</b>
Summer Term 2	Return to School	Monday 6th June 2022
	School Closes for Summer	Friday 22nd July 2022

Public Holidays 2021-2022		Staff Training (INSET) Days
Good Friday: 15 <sup>th</sup> April 2022		Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2022
Easter Monday: 18 <sup>th</sup> April 2022		
May Day: Monday: 2nd May 2022		
Spring Bank Holiday: Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2022		
Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday: Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2022		
Summer Bank Holiday: Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2022		

## Follow us on Social Media

Don't forget to follow us on social media to keep up to date what's happening in school.



Twitter: @mcracademy

Facebook: @MCRAcademyHighSchool

Instagram: @mcracademyschool

## Our School Uniform - Stockist Details

Just a reminder to make sure our students have the right uniform at all times in school.

Manchester Academy insists on black leather school shoes not trainers. Students should wear black trousers or a black skirt, white shirt and their year group's tie. All our uniform is available from our uniform stockist, M.C.S. Stores.

The old royal blue sweatshirts are no longer part of our uniform and should not be worn. We also need all students to wear the Manchester Academy PE kit for their sports lessons and this is also available from our stockist. We regularly get positive feedback regarding how business-like and smart our students are, and this sets a business-like tone for the day.

M.C.S. Stores is based at 220-222 Fog Lane, Didsbury, Manchester. M20 6EL.

Telephone: (0161) 445 7740 or email: [sales@mcsstores.co.uk](mailto:sales@mcsstores.co.uk) or visit their website: [www.mcsstores.co.uk](http://www.mcsstores.co.uk)

More information about Academy uniform is available on our website:

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



**MCSSTORES** 0161 445 7740

Order Online [mcsstores.co.uk](http://mcsstores.co.uk)

Manchester Academy 2020

SCHOOLWEAR/ PE KIT

Ties	All	£6.50		
Blazer Navy with Badge	26"-28"	29"-32"	33"-36"	37"-42"
Girls/ Boys	£28.00	£30.00	£35.00	£38.00
Blouses/Shirts	White	from £6.99		
Skirts	Black	Various range see in store		
Trousers	Black	Various range see in store		
PE Polo Shirt	upto 13 Yrs	Adults		
Navy with Badge	£11.99	£13.99		
PE Hoodie	All Sizes	£19.99		
PE Track Pants	Childrens	Adults		
Navy with Badge	£19.99	£20.99		
PE Shorts	All sizes	£6.99		
PE Leggings	All sizes	£18.99		
PE/ Outdoor Socks	All sizes	£4.50		
Iron-On Name Tapes	40	£4.00		
PE Bag	with Badge	£6.50		

**220 Fog Lane, Didsbury, M20 6EL**

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## My Ed Parent App



Connecting parents, students and schools



# Download our school app NOW

Step 1: Go to your app store



Step 2: Search for My Ed



Step 3: Download the app



## Information about your student and school direct into your pocket.



### Attendance

Keep up to date with your child's attendance details.



### Forms

Fill in forms securely on your app and return them directly to school.



### Timetables

Get regular updates on timetables.



### Key Dates

Important dates the school needs you to know.



### News

Access the latest school news.



### Info Packs

Digital information packs reduces time, hassle & paper.



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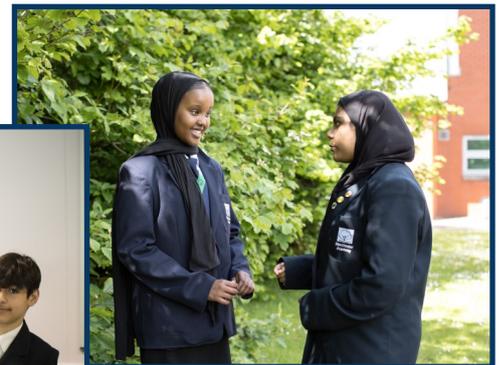
[www.myedschoolapp.com](http://www.myedschoolapp.com)

## Student Testimonials

"I like Manchester Academy because it feels like you're part of a big family or community. There are so many great opportunities and I feel very happy here, Alishba Shaikh, Year 8 student.

"I like Manchester Academy because I feel I am encouraged to achieve my best potential and there are so many fantastic extra-curricular activities to do after school." Lyndsy Banza, Year 9 student.

"I enjoy being a student at Manchester Academy because I feel I get constant support and guidance from teachers." Omar Eltoukhy, Year 10 student.



## Contact us

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# Manchester Academy: how we Make Manchester Magic



## Educate Awards®

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**RUNNER-UP 2021**

