



TRANSITION BOOKLET

2026-27



WELLACRE

WELCOME TO WELLACRE



Congratulations on making the decision to join us.

On behalf of all the staff and students, I am delighted to welcome you to Wellacre as our September 2026 cohort.

Wellacre is a very special place and is brimming with opportunities for all to thrive

Our values underpin everything we do and are characterised in the strength of our pastoral care, our ambitious curriculum, our commitment to developing student leadership and the huge range of wonderful opportunities we create for all our students.

We are so excited to begin the transition journey with you and we look forward to working in partnership to bring out the very best in your child

Wishing you every success,

Mrs J Sharrock

Principal

OUR VALUES

HONESTY

We are honest with ourselves and with each other.
We will strive to be people that others can trust.

PRIDE

We take pride in our appearance, our work and our school.

RESPECT

We respect ourselves, others and our environment.

ASPIRATION

We aspire to be better than our best.
We believe in ourselves and believe we will succeed.

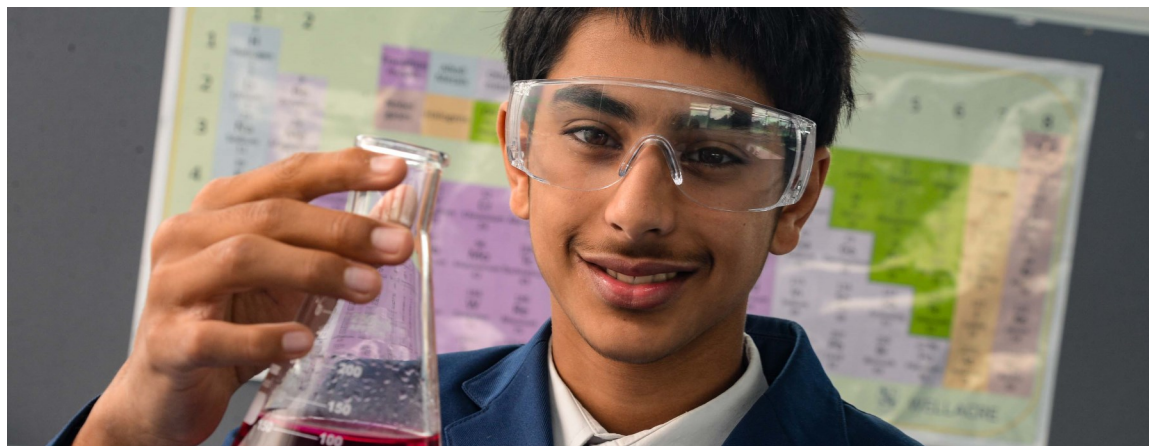
RESILIENCE

We are resilient and never give up.
We learn from our mistakes and always work hard.



WELLACRE

CURRICULUM



Students are central to everything we do at Wellacre.

The curriculum at Wellacre is ambitious for all students in its breadth and depth. Each subject has carefully considered the 'powerful knowledge' within their discipline to thoughtfully plan and sequence a curriculum so that knowledge builds cumulatively over time.

A broad range of subjects are included in the KS3 curriculum including Maths, English, Science, RESPECT, Physical Education, French, Computing, History, Geography, Religion and World Views Education, Food, Technology, Art, Drama and Music.

All our students follow the RESPECT curriculum which explores the themes of:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Relationships
- Living in the Wider World

RESPECT lessons are delivered each week to all students and is our primary vehicle for taught Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE and Citizenship) alongside KS4 compulsory Religious and World Views Education (RWE). The statutory elements of Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) are covered within the RESPECT lessons.

Our RSE policy, including the parental right to withdraw from Sex Education, can be found in the policies section of the website.

More information about the curriculum can be found on the school website

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Homework at Wellacre is referred to as Independent Study. Effective study habits are developed through the regular setting of independent learning tasks. Students are encouraged to be proactive in the development of their own knowledge by using our four taught independent learning strategies to reinforce learning.

Students' Independent learning platforms

Students' independent learning will, in the main, be set on Seneca, Mathswatch and Carousel. Exceptions may be, for example, where the most appropriate platform for completing assignments is in the Google Suite, for example in Drive, Classroom or Quiz.

We have a Homework Club in the library twice a week after school. Help is always available.

CO-CURRICULAR

Our Co-Curricular Programme runs every Wednesday 3pm-4pm and introduces our students to many new activities. Our Co-Curricular programme promotes self-confidence and broadens horizons. **This is part of our school day every Wednesday and is not optional.**

Students will generally opt from a different 'menu' of activities each term, on rotation along with members of their House (Lowry, Turing and Pankhurst), to enable them to participate in a breadth of experiences. We have formed partnerships with several local organisations in order to develop the links between our students and the community they live in.



Alongside these options, we offer students the chance to participate in many sports teams, theatre visits, museum visits, University trips and cultural visits abroad including Austria and Iceland.

Sports fixtures may result in a later finish but parents will be informed in advance.

Trafford Music Service offers lessons in; keyboard, flute, clarinet, trumpet, guitar, bass, drums and violin. Our Music Teacher will provide further information in September.

Student Leadership:

Our Student Leaders are well respected by everyone at Wellacre. They raise the profile of student leadership on a daily basis and we actively encourage our new Year 7's to get involved in the many student leadership roles in school;

- STEM Leaders
- Literacy Leaders
- Sports Leaders
- Student Ambassadors
- Wellbeing Ambassadors
- Anti-Bullying Ambassadors
- House Captains, Vice Captains and Sports Captains
- Form representatives and Student Council members

Punctuality

Punctuality is important to us at Wellacre and good habits around punctuality are valued by colleges, training providers and employers.

From September, all students **must be on site by 8.20am** so they are ready to start the school day at 8.30am.

Students who are late, after 8.30am, will get a late mark on the register. There are Consequences issued to students who are late two or more times in a week.

Before school, breakfast can be purchased in the school canteen from 8.10am-8.25am.

The school day ends at 3pm except for a Wednesday when the school day finishes at 4pm as the whole school takes part in Co-Curricular enrichment.

We are currently finalising plans for the school day and will share these in July.



GETTING TO AND FROM SCHOOL



Some students walk or ride their bike to school, whilst others choose to use public transport.

We encourage parents not to drop off their son at school to ease congestion, reduce air pollution and ensure our students are safe by decreasing the amount of traffic around the school site.

Whichever method your child chooses to travel to Wellacre, we recommend that he practices the journey to school during the summer holidays so that he is familiar with the route and how long the journey will take.

When students wear our uniform they are easily identifiable and are expected to act as ambassadors for our school. All students are expected to behave with respect for our neighbours and local area at all times and make a positive contribution to the wider school community.

More information about bus routes can be found on our website or at <https://tfgm.com/>

Bike sheds are available for students to store their bikes during the day if they choose to cycle to school. The bike sheds are locked at 8.30am and re-opened at 2.55pm. Students should bring their own lock to secure their bicycle and wear a helmet whilst making their way to and from Wellacre. Students who cycle to school are expected to be proficient in cycling and have a road worthy bike. They are also expected to follow the highway code and respect the rules which keep everybody safe.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

It is important that all students feel **a sense of pride in belonging to our school.**

Our policy around uniform reflects statutory guidance. It is our expectation that all students wear our full uniform every day.

From September 2026, in line with Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, the four branded items of school uniform will be those **numbered items below:**

1.A blue blazer with red crest (branded/required)

Grey V neck jumper (non branded/required)

2. Wellacre Academy tie - KS3 in House colour (branded/required)

Dark grey trousers (non-branded/required)

Plain white shirt (non-branded/required)

Plain Black shoes - no trainers (non-branded/required)

3. Royal blue Wellacre PE t-shirt (branded/required)

4. Royal blue Wellacre PE shorts (branded/required)

Royal blue knee length sports socks (non-branded/required)

Trainers (any make or colour/required)

Football boots (any make or colour/required)

Recommended items are:

A dark waterproof coat

Plain black or dark blue base layers (recommended for under PE kit in cold weather)

School shoes are required and not trainers. School shoes are usually black leather or similar polishable materials.

Items from sportswear brands (Adidas, Nike, Vans, Lonsdale, etc.) are deemed trainers and not permissible as formal school shoes, even if they are 'all black'. Canvas shoes or plimsolls are not considered suitable, durable, or smart enough to be a shoe. If the sole is made of soft, "bouncy" foam (like Nike Air) or has a white/coloured trim, it will be classified as a trainer.

Students wearing trainers (other than for play at breaktimes and for PE lessons) will be requested to change back into their school shoes. Suitable school shoes, in good condition, will always be offered as an alternative if the students do not have shoes with them. Students will be expected to wear them.

Sports tops, hooded tops and any other garment that is in addition to the Wellacre uniform should not be brought to school.

PE Kit

PE kit must be brought on all days when timetabled for PE. If a student is injured or ill then they are expected to bring their PE kit and a note from home detailing the injury/illness. Students will be expected to change into PE kit and assist in the lesson; they can still access the learning without taking part in the physical aspects that may affect the injury. At no point will students be forced to take part when injured but if they fail to bring PE kit then they will receive consequences as per departmental policy. By changing into PE kit their uniform will be protected from the inclement weather.

HOUSE SYSTEM



The House System at Wellacre is an important part of school life. Houses are named after iconic Manchester figures who have had, and continue to have a significant impact on the lives of people throughout the world.

Our houses are named: (Alan) **Turing**, (Emmeline) **Pankhurst** and (Laurence Stephen) **Lowry**.

Each student wears a House tie showing the colours illustrated above to represent their house. An example of the Key Stage 3 ties are shown below.

Students in a House are part of a team and work together for the benefit of themselves and the entire house. House points are given in recognition of students' achievements. For example, representing the school at external events, completing Independent Study to a high standard or participating in after-school events outside of the curriculum. House points are also awarded for upholding Wellacre's core values and for good attendance and punctuality.

Each House has its own **student leadership team** which includes a House Captain, Vice Captains and Sports Captains. There are regular house competitions held throughout the year ranging from sporting events, talent shows and competitions.

At the end of the year the House with the most points receives the House Trophy.



ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL



Recognition and Reward

We recognise the achievements of all our students because they matter.

Achievement points are awarded by staff when students have demonstrated any of the school's core values. These points are collected and can be redeemed for vouchers.

Points can be awarded for the following:

- Upholding the school's core values.
- Good behaviour.
- Effective participation in class/making a positive contribution.
- Excellent effort/progress in lessons.
- Positive approach to learning.
- Out of hours learning.
- Excellent attendance and punctuality.

Awards Evening: Summer Term

Our Annual Recognition evening for students in Year 7-10 focuses on celebrating curriculum achievements alongside students' sporting and personal achievements.

Reward Trips

Reward and celebration activities take place throughout the year. Students will be invited to participate based on excellent attendance and sustaining a positive attitude to learning.

Post Cards & Phone Calls home

Teachers will inform you via Post Cards or phone calls to recognise outstanding achievements or continued commitment to learning within a subject.

Fortnightly House assemblies focus on the widest achievements of all students including;

- Highest attendance of a Tutor group
- Most improved Tutor group attendance/punctuality
- Highest achievement points within a Tutor group
- House points
- House competitions
- Student of the week
- Focus of the week

EQUIPMENT

The following items of equipment are considered to be **essential**:

- A sensible, dark coloured, school bag or back pack, large enough to contain exercise books, knowledge guides and A4 size folders.
- Pencil case: pen, pencil, sharpener, ruler, rubber, compass, protractor and a set of coloured pencils.
- A scientific calculator.
- A whiteboard marker
- A set of index cards

It is very important that students are well organised. Every evening they should pack their bag with everything they need for the next day. To assist them, a copy of their timetable should be kept at home. Students should check their equipment to ensure they have everything and it is working properly. Subject staff will provide exercise books/files and paper.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

There are a number of lockers available to hire. Students who require a locker will need to pay a £5 non-refundable deposit. In September, students will be asked if they would like a locker and a key will be given to them once the deposit has been paid. There is a surcharge for students who lose a locker key. Lockers are issued on a first come, first served basis.

Mobile devices are not allowed in school. The school cannot accept responsibility for items including mobile devices, iPads, game consoles or other electronic equipment. Expensive personal belongings should NEVER be brought to school.

We encourage our students to bring a water bottle each day. We have water fountains available for our students to re-fill their bottles. Please remember to write the student's name on the water bottle.



KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school information and communications.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App means we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. You will be able to log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go! The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from The App Store or Google Play Store on your phone.

What information can you access through Arbor?

Attendance	Detail of your son's registration attendance and punctuality.
Behaviour:	Your son's behaviour incidents, behaviour points and detentions as well as any achievement points gained each day.
Reports:	Students' Reports. These are published twice a year. We also produce an annual Recognition Report for all students in the Summer Term. Reports are not sent home and are only accessed through this facility
Timetable:	The current day's timetable for your son.
Teachers:	A list of your son's teachers.
Homework:	A list of homework that has been set for your son, with instructions on how to complete it along with hand-in dates. We do not use a planner to record homework

Please note that all documentation from the school will be sent out electronically.

This includes all letters, notices, newsletters and trip letters. Paper copies will not be sent as we have committed to reducing paper waste.

"See it; Hear it; Lose it"

We do not allow the use of mobile phones in school. School, for the purposes of this policy, denotes **all buildings and areas within the school perimeter, including all its grounds.**

If devices are seen or heard during the course of the school day, they will be **confiscated immediately** by the member of staff, collected and stored securely. A text message will be sent home to inform the parent/carer of the device confiscation and the Consequence will be served the same day. At the end of the Consequence, the student will have their device returned.

We are currently reviewing how we will enforce what will become law in September; that all schools should be mobile phone free by default.

ONLINE SAFETY

Within RESPECT lessons and the Computing curriculum, students in all year groups are taught about online dangers and how to respond to any concerns or issues that arise. The online safety of our students is subject to regular review, especially as new products and technologies are introduced.



EXTRA PROTECTION FOR STUDENTS WHEN THEY USE COMPUTERS AT SCHOOL

Many lessons involve the use of computers and the internet as an important part of learning. Young people use computers outside of the classroom and at home too, as a way of keeping in touch with each other and learning about the world. There are many positive benefits to technology, but to ensure young people are safe, especially online, schools are required to provide a level of guidance and supervision.

COMPUTER MONITORING

Monitoring software is installed on every computer and works silently in the background. The software gives students the freedom to use the internet and computer programs responsibly, whilst capturing misuse and unacceptable behaviour.

HOW IT WORKS

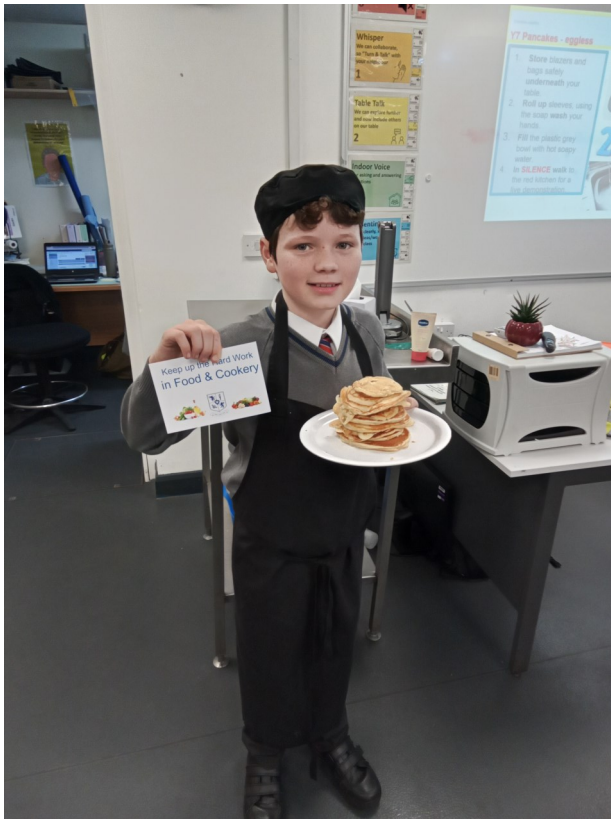
The various types of software detect or block swear words, abusive language or explicit images that appear on-screen. All programmes and websites are covered including Microsoft Word, email instant messaging sites like Facebook and Twitter. A record is taken of any misuse or cause for concern, along with the identity of the user. Designated staff will review the records and decide on the most appropriate course of action.

WHAT IT PREVENTS

The designated staff are alerted to students using bullying or threatening behaviour and inappropriate websites. It also gives an early warning to potentially harmful situations, like predator grooming, drugs or signs of depression. Evidence helps staff choose the best course of action, from support for victims of bullying, protecting a vulnerable child, to confronting a student who is acting inappropriately.

BREAK & LUNCH TIME ARRANGEMENTS

At Wellacre we pride ourselves on having outstanding catering facilities, which enables us to ensure high quality, healthy food and drinks are available at breakfast, break time and lunchtime.



BREAKFAST

Breakfast is available for students from 8.10am. There are a range of food options available as well as a selection of hot and cold drinks.

BREAK TIME

Break is spent outside in the fresh air unless the weather is extreme and students are allowed to stay inside the school building.

Our dining room is also open at break time to purchase a range of healthy snacks and drinks.

LUNCH TIME

We have a varied menu designed in conjunction with the Student Council, which caters for wide-ranging tastes and is planned to provide the nourishment required to keep everyone alert, attentive and ready to learn.

The wide range of food available includes favourites such as; cottage pie, curry, chilli, lasagne, jacket potato and pasta. There are also vegetarian and Halal options available each day as well as a varied selection of

sandwiches, baguettes and wraps. Students can pre-order their lunch at the start of each school day or break time. Fruit, vegetables, salad and water are available to all students every lunch time.

PACKED LUNCH

Students can, if they wish, bring a packed lunch to eat in school. **Energy drinks are not permitted in school as government legislation prohibits their sale to anyone under the age of 16. We also do not allow Prime drinks or similar.**

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2026, there will be changes to who can and cannot receive Free School Meals (FSM). Read more about the changes here:

Trafford: <https://www.trafford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals-and-catering/free-school-meals>

Salford: <https://www.salford.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/free-school-meals/>

CASHLESS CATERING



Wellacre is a cashless school and all payments including those for school meals, events and trips must be made via the payment section in Arbor.

If you are not able to pay on-line please contact admin@wellacre.org for information about paying via Paypoint at local retail outlets or refer to the relevant section on the school website.

The dining room system uses biometric technology. By taking a fingerprint image, an account can be created as an alpha-number code and accessed by them using the same finger at a till point. The alpha-numeric information that is stored cannot be used to recreate an image of the student's fingerprint.

The main benefits are that it discourages the misuse of school dinner money, it promotes healthy eating and the process of paying for school meals is more convenient. The process also helps alleviate many of the problems associated with the use of cash within the school through loss or theft.

We do not accept cash or cheques in school, therefore it is very important that you credit your son's account for his school meals via Arbor before your son starts school. Please ensure your son is always in credit to purchase his lunch. We have a policy around School Meal debt and this can be found on our school website.

There is a daily spend limit of £6.00 set automatically. The limit can be amended by email or written request to the finance office (procurement@wellacre.org). In addition to break and lunch, the dining room is also open from 8.10am for students to purchase breakfast.

You can view our healthy meals menus on our website and Arbor offers users the facility to view your son's dining room purchases, giving you the information you may need to help your son make healthier choices.

ATTENDANCE & HOLIDAYS

ATTENDANCE

Attendance matters. Regular attendance is crucial to success.

Your son's ability to learn, progress and achieve success in all areas of school life, is dependant on regular attendance at Wellacre. We expect all our students to have excellent attendance. All students are set a target of 96% attendance.

We are sensitive to the fact that some absences are unavoidable and request that you telephone school each day your son is absent. We use a text messaging service to contact you if your son is absent from school without an explanation.

Where possible, please try to ensure that medical and dental appointments are made after school. If you have any concerns about your son's attendance, we have a dedicated Attendance Officer who is always willing to support students and parents. Key contacts at school will be provided on induction.

We know that you will encourage your son to participate fully in school life and will work with the school to promote good habits of attendance and punctuality. It is really important that you work with us to overcome any barriers to achieving excellent attendance.



PUNCTUALITY

All students must be on site by 8.20am, ready to start the day at 8.30am.

Students are expected to be on time for their lessons. If they are late there will be a consequence issued. To avoid being late for school in the morning, students should organise their things the night before. Make sure your son leaves home in time to walk to school or to catch the bus. Missing a bus because he got up late is not an acceptable excuse for being late! This is important for our students to learn as part of their wider education and development.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

School are not permitted to authorise holidays in term time. If you decide to take your son on holiday, despite the request for Leave of Absence being declined, please be advised that this may result in the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice (Fine) under section 444 of the 1996 Act.

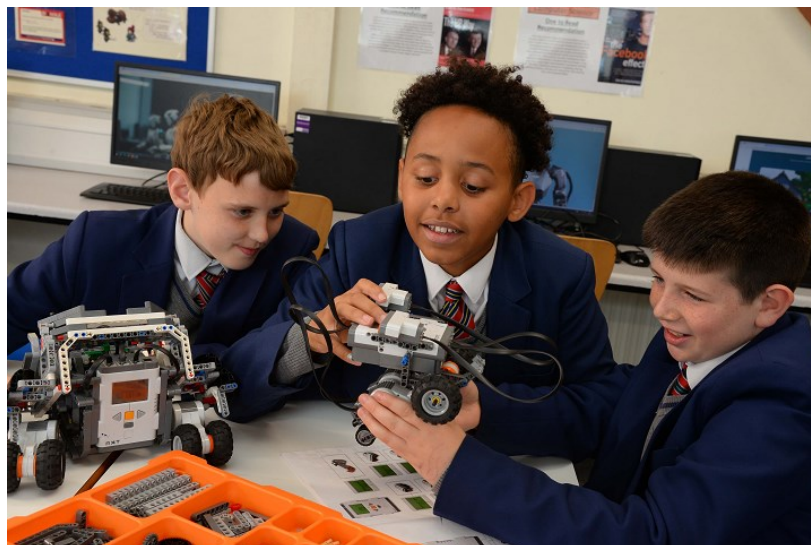
Parents will be fined by the Local Authority for taking their children on holiday during term time without consent from the school. The cost of these fines are: £80 per child per parent, if paid within 21 days. If the fine is not paid within 21 days, it rises to £160. This higher fee must be paid between day 22 and day 28.

Please note that fines are per child

Any requests for exceptional absence in term time must be made via the online form in the Attendance section of the Wellacre website.

More information can also be found here:

ILLNESS, ACCIDENTS & SIGNING OUT



ILLNESS AND ACCIDENTS

If your son feels unwell he must tell a member of staff and not use a mobile device to call home. Normally, he will be sent to the main school office. If he is too ill to remain in school, then parents will be contacted to make suitable arrangements. If your son has an accident he must tell a member of staff immediately - he may need assistance from one of the school's first aiders.

Under no circumstances should your son leave the school or go home without permission. Neither is he allowed to contact you directly to collect him. We expect your full support with this in line with our no mobile device policy.

MEDICINES

It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that their son is fit to attend school, and any medicine required should ideally be administered by the parent/carer.

LONG TERM PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

If your son is on prescription medication for a significant medical condition and it is necessary for this to be taken or available during the school day, medicines can be brought into school. Parents are required to complete a consent form providing full details of the medication including the dosage and times this should be taken, indication whether the medication is only to be used as a spare, or to be made available to the student at regular intervals.

Parents of students with existing conditions requiring medicines can contact admin@wellacre.org to make arrangements to discuss their child's Individual Health Care Plan.

SHORT TERM PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

If your son is prescribed short term medication for a general illness, such as antibiotics, parents are permitted to bring these into school only if it is detrimental to the student's health if the medication is not administered during the school day. **If this is the case, a consent form will need to be completed by the parent when the medication is brought into school and a member of staff may supervise your son whilst he administers his own medicine if required.**

If your son suffers regularly from frequent or acute pain, parents are encouraged to discuss this with their GP.



NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICATION

We do not accept any responsibility for non-prescription medication in school. This includes items such as paracetamol, ibuprofen, antihistamines and cough medicines.

SELF-MEDICATION

It is good practice to support and encourage students, who are able, to take responsibility to manage their own medicines from a relatively early age and as a school, we encourage this. Students have to carry their own asthma inhalers and adrenaline pens.

Students are permitted to carry and administer their own medicines in accordance with medical advice and parent recommendations. If a student carries their own medicine, this must be approached carefully by parents considering the safety of other students in the school. There must be a sensible restriction on the quantity of medication carried by students and we suggest this is not more than one dose of pain relief or equivalent. A consent form for your son's prescribed medication will be required.

SIGNING IN/OUT

Medical appointments should be arranged whenever possible outside of school hours. However if your son must leave school during the day for any reason then parents must send a note in advance of the date. Your son must sign out at the main reception, and if he returns to school later on the same day, he must sign in again.

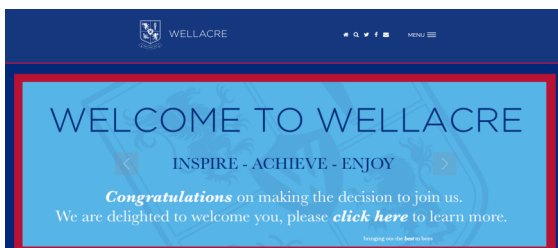
We will not release students for appointments that we have not received parental contact regarding.

COMMUNICATION

At Wellacre we are committed to strengthening partnerships with our parents, carers and wider community.

We offer a number of simple, effective channels of communication to enable us to keep you up to date regarding all our exciting events, trips and the achievements of students and staff and important forthcoming events.

THE WEBSITE



www.wellacre.org you can find all the latest news and events, letters home, newsletter archives, school calendar and a wealth of useful information about all aspects of school life.

X



Our X account can be used to access all of the latest information at Wellacre, to receive these updates please access **@WellacreAcademy**

FACEBOOK



Our Facebook page is another great way to keep in touch with all the latest news at Wellacre. To receive updates access **www.facebook.com/wellacre**

Please follow the school on one of these platforms for all the latest news and updates

NEWSLETTER

A termly newsletter is shared via the school website. It is also distributed through our wider family of associated primary schools and outlets throughout the community.

TEXT AND E-MAIL

Wellacre regularly uses texts and e-mail to keep you up to date with news and information. You need to add your e-mail address to your emergency contact details on the admission form and keep us informed of any changes to make sure our communications reach you.

Our in-app messages via Arbor are free.

TERM DATES 2026-27

TERM DATES FOR STUDENTS 2026/2027

Opening Dates	Closing Dates
A U T U M N T E R M 2 0 2 6	
Wednesday 2nd September	Friday 16th October
School will be closed for Students on Friday 25th September	
Monday 2nd November	Friday 18th December
S P R I N G T E R M 2 0 2 7	
Monday 4th January	Friday 12th February
Monday 22nd February	Thursday 25th March
S U M M E R T E R M 2 0 2 7	
School will be closed 3rd May (May Bank Holiday)	
Monday 12th April	Friday 28th May
Monday 7th June	Friday 16th July

****Wednesday 2nd September**** - School re-opens for Years 7, 10 & 11 Students only
Thursday 3rd September - Years 8 & 9 Return