



WELLACRE

25th August 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your family well and you continue to enjoy the summer break. We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students and staff back to Wellacre.

Congratulations to our Year 11 Leavers

We welcomed the Class of 2026 back this week to collect their GCSE and Technical Awards results. We are really proud of their achievements. They have each made a unique contribution to the Wellacre community over their five years with us and **we wish them all every success and much happiness as they move on to pastures new.**

2026 results are an improvement on last year's across all key performance measures with results in line or above national averages in many subjects. Well done to everyone!

You can read more about it via this link. [GCSE Results Report August 2026.pdf](#)

Updates and reminders for the new school year

There is a lot of information in this 'bumper edition' but I appreciate that many parents want as much information for the year ahead as possible.

Staggered return for all students

We welcome back **Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 students on Wednesday 2nd September** and they will be joined by **Year 8 and Year 9 students on Thursday 3rd September.**

Year 7 students line up in the Science annex car park next to the bike sheds. Staff will be available to direct them. All other year groups will line up with their House in their designated area.

Please note that there will be **no Co-Curricular Period 6 on Wednesday 2nd September** so school will finish at 3pm. The first 4pm Wednesday finish will be **Wednesday 9th September.**

An earlier start for all

School starts at 8.30am for all students this year. Please get to school before 8.25am to be on time each morning for whole school meet and greet line ups. Please use the TfGM planning tools to make sure your child is punctual for school every day. [Plan a journey | Bee Network | Powered by TfGM](#) Please bear in mind that there are road works and congestion to consider so the bus before the one that only just arrives on time is the best option. Timetables for the 795, 798 and 799 can be found here: [Flixton Urmston Wellacre 2026-27.pdf](#)

Cycling to school is encouraged but **students are strongly urged to wear a helmet** to keep them safe and ensure their bike is in good working order. They need a lock to secure their bike on the school site.



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If you own an e-scooter, you can only use it on private land, such as in a garden, but you must have the permission of the landowner to do so. It is not currently possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters. This means it is illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces, such as parks, street pavements, and shopping centres. **We do not allow e-scooters to be brought onto the school site under any circumstances as it is not legal to be using them to and from school.**

Likewise, there are very specific requirements about riding an '**electrically assisted pedal cycle**' (EAPC) legally if you are over 14. [Riding an electric bike: the rules - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/riding-an-electric-bike-the-rules) We do not allow any EAPC which is not compliant onto school premises and will report any child who is riding illegally to the police as part of our safeguarding responsibilities.

Please can I remind parents and carers not to drive onto the school site at drop off (8.15-8.35am) or pick up times (2.50-3.10pm) unless you need to access the disabled bays at the front of main reception, or you are attending a pre-arranged appointment. Please do not park on the yellow zig zag lines which are there to protect children.

A move to one lunchtime

Lunchtime for all students will be 12.15-1pm.

Play spaces are;

Y7/8 - Tennis courts and Yard

Y9/10/11 - Astro and Courtyard

Year 11 will have lunch in the Main Reception canteen. Students are strongly encouraged to pre-order cold food for collection at lunch. They can do this every morning in the Canteen before school starts. Grab bags can be collected from the office window in the Courtyard at the start of every lunchtime (Y7-10) and from the Year 11 canteen (Y11). This will avoid the canteen queues for the significant number of students who do not wish to purchase hot food. In the main canteen;

- Year 7 will line up at 12.05pm (early lunch to start the year)
- Year 9 will line up at 12.15pm
- Year 8 and Year 10 will line up at 12.30pm

This will change every half term, so that in Autumn 2 term Y8 and Y10 will line up at 12.15pm and Y7 and Y9 at 12.30pm.

Please make sure that your child has sufficient credit on their Arbor account to purchase food if that is your preferred arrangement. We have written to you about changes to Free School meals that may affect your child. Please make sure that you have taken necessary steps regarding this.



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There will be clubs running at lunchtime as follows for the Autumn Term:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7/8 Dodgeball ACO G1	Y9 Basketball/Dodgeball LJA G1	Y7/8 Lego LTU HIVE	All Board and Card games LBA 5	Y7 Basketball JCA G1
Y7/8 Lego LRO HIVE	All Board and Card games LBA 5	All Library SDR	Y7/8 Lego HLA HIVE	Y10/11 Multi Gym/Circuits LWA
All Carousel Club OAM 10	Y7/8 Lego WHA HIVE		All Seneca & Carousel AWI IT1	Y8 Basketball RLI G2
All Library RHE	All Keyboard Club AQU M1		All Keyboard Club AQU M1	

Equipment

All students must be equipped and ready to learn. They need a **pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, a scientific calculator, a white board/dry erase pen (e.g Dry erase pens are £1 for 4 in Tesco and similar elsewhere) and index cards to be kept at home so students can make their own flashcards.** Students also need a school bag large enough to carry school books and kit. Equipment checks will take place regularly in Form Time. **Please help us in ensuring that every student is ready to learn.**

Uniform standards

Our students look smart in their uniform and it is an important part of sustaining a strong sense of community and belonging. All students are expected to arrive in full school uniform for their first day at school. **Jumpers must be worn** at all times under the school blazer. **Hooded tops/sweatshirts and jackets are not part of our uniform and will be confiscated.** In classrooms, students can always remove jumpers and blazers if they are warm. Shirts need to be tucked in.

Please can I also remind you that your son needs to **remove any earrings/piercings** before arriving on the school site. Covering them with a plaster or wearing a retainer is not acceptable.

The PE kit is part of the uniform and all students must have the Wellacre PE top, shorts and royal blue socks as a minimum. PE staff will be asked to conduct PE uniform checks in the first PE lessons.

More information about our uniform can be found here. **All Y10 and Y11 students should wear a KS4 tie with the school badge in the colour of their House; green for Turing, yellow for Lowry and purple for Pankhurst** [Uniform Expectations | Wellacre Academy](#)

All students should be in **school shoes** in line with the uniform policy.

If you are experiencing particular difficulty around financial hardship, please contact us at admin@wellacre.org and we will try to help. I thank you all for the efforts you will have gone to



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in order to purchase and provide the correct uniform. Thank you also to those who donated uniforms for recycling. We have been able to support a number of families this summer.

Welcome to new staff and students

We have appointed additional staff to accommodate increasing student numbers on roll. We would like to extend a warm Wellacre welcome to the following new staff;

- Mr B Sloan, Teacher of Business and Computing
- Miss L Autumn - Teacher of Computing
- Miss R Wheatcroft - Lead Practitioner in Maths

New members of staff have already spent time at Wellacre for their induction so are well prepared for the start of term.

It has been a pleasure to be in school for **Summer School Week**. 109 students will have attended the full or part week and have been well supported by a range of Wellacre staff. The boys appear to be enjoying themselves and we are looking forward to welcoming 156 Year 7's from 29 different Primary schools on Wednesday 2nd September for their first day. **We hope that they quickly develop a strong sense of belonging in this thriving school and we look forward to helping them to develop their skills, interests and aspirations with us.**

Meet the Tutor Evening; All invited

We will be inviting all our parents and carers to book a **remote** five minute appointment with their child's tutor on **Thursday 10th September 4.30-7pm**. This will be a good opportunity for you all to make a connection with the Tutor who sees your child every morning and is the first port of call regarding their pastoral care. The link to make an appointment via School Cloud will go out in September.

Parent Information Evenings

We will be hosting **Parent Information Evenings** at the start of term. These will be important sessions in which we will have the opportunity to explain some key information in a little more detail. Please note that due to fire regulations, the hall has a limited capacity so each evening is for one family representative only please. Wellacre students should not attend.

Please note the session for your child:

Year 7 Monday 7th September, 6pm-7pm

Year 10 and Year 11 Monday 14th September, 6pm-7pm

Year 8 and Year 9 Monday 21st September, 6pm-7pm



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Progress Evenings Dates for your diaries

Year 11 4.30-7:30pm on Thursday 3rd December

Year 9 and Options 4.30-7.30pm on Thursday 4th February

Year 10 4.30-7:30pm on Thursday 4th March

Year 8 4.30-7:30pm on Thursday 18th March

Year 7 4.30-7:30pm on Thursday 6th May

Appointments will be remote using SchoolCloud software.

Assessment weeks can be found in the table below:

Year group	Internal assessment weeks
Year 11 Assessments DC1 (Hall)	Monday 5th October - Friday 16th October
Year 7-10 Assessments DC1 (Classrooms)	Monday 14th December - Friday 15th January
Year 11 Assessments DC2 (Hall)	Monday 1st February - Friday 12th February
Year 7-9 Assessments DC2 (Classrooms)	Monday 7th June - Friday 25th June
Year 10 Assessments DC2 (Hall)	Monday 14th June - Friday 25th June

No visitors without an appointment please

A reminder to all that staff have teaching, duty and diary commitments so **we are not able to admit visitors into school without an appointment**. If you have a query, please email admin@wellacre.org and this will be forwarded to the relevant member of staff to deal with most efficiently. Alternatively, please telephone reception and leave a message. You will also be able to contact your son's Tutor or your son's Head of House by email.

Please note that we have a reasonable expectation that staff will respond to any query within 48-72 hours, unless it is an urgent safeguarding referral.

It is really important that we endeavour to get the **'right people around the table'** when meetings take place and this takes thought and sometimes cover to arrange. Please also be mindful of the way in which you communicate with school staff. Whilst we appreciate some issues can be emotive, we expect communications to be professional and courteous. Please could our parents and carers refrain from raising concerns via social media as this is not an



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appropriate forum to discuss matters and will not move things forward. Thank you in anticipation of your full support in this matter.

Head of House letters will be sent out in the first week of term and they will include all relevant email addresses for Tutors and the Inclusion Team. **Your son's Tutor should always be your first point of contact.**

Our **website** is well maintained and serves as an excellent reference point for those seeking information about life at Wellacre <https://www.wellacre.org/> We are currently working on a new website which we hope will be launched in the Autumn Term.

The Friday Principal's Updates and weekly bulletins are also a helpful reference point for our school community. Please look out for them on Arbor every Friday afternoon.

Term Dates

The term dates for this year (2026-27) and next year (2027-28) can be found here [Term Dates, Calendar & School Day](#). It is **Open Evening on Thursday 24th September 2026 and, due to cleaning and the need to give all those students helping out the time to get home and back, school will close to all students at 2.30pm that day.**

Absence requests in exceptional circumstances .

We continue to have good attendance and punctuality at Wellacre but we want it to be excellent. Whilst nearly all of our students want to be in school and our parents and carers are hugely supportive of our efforts to promote excellent attendance. [Attendance and Punctuality | Wellacre Academy](#)

Whilst we understand that it can be difficult and often expensive to take holidays outside of term time, students need to be in school and it is quite clear in government guidance that absence can only be granted in very exceptional circumstances.

A family holiday or short break is not in itself an exceptional circumstance despite those circumstances being 'special' to the family involved. Paragraph 38 of the DfE Working together to improve school attendance guidance states; 'Generally, the DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be an exceptional circumstance.'

If you do decide to take your son out of school for a reason which is not authorised, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. This could lead to you a financial penalty for those with parental responsibility.

We appreciate that attending school is harder for some students for a wide range of reasons and we remain committed to working in partnership with families to achieve the best attendance for all our students. It is in their best interests to attend in order to ensure continuity in learning



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and routines. Absence does not help to improve a situation. Knowledge gaps grow; confidence wanes and it makes it harder to attend regularly.

Any parent wanting to take their child out of school, during term time, for any reason must inform the Principal in writing, by completing and submitting this form with plenty of notice (2 weeks).

Student Leave of Absence Application Form

Please make any medical appointments outside school hours as far as possible and this includes Wednesday period 6 which is not an optional school session. Where this is not possible, children should only be out of school for the minimum amount of time necessary for the appointment. Thank you for ongoing support in promoting excellent habits of punctual and regular attendance to school.

Excellence in behaviour

Thank you in anticipation of your full support in implementing our policies for the benefit of all students, and part of our commitment to achieving excellence in all we do.

A reminder that mobile devices including phones, tablets, headphones and smart watches are not allowed on the school site. **By law, schools have to be mobile phone free.**

In an emergency, please contact the school on 0161 748 5011, explain how you think we can help and we will ensure that your child is well supported.

Arbor

We are paperless in our communications so please ensure that you are on board with Arbor as soon as possible. We are expecting all our Y7 parents/carers to be actively engaged by the end of September. The leaflet below will help you.

[Handout_ Arbor Parent App poster.pdf](#)

Parents/carers can edit their details and contact details themselves. **Please could all parents/carers check that their details are correct on Arbor.** Please remember that any legal rights to access information about a child must be reflected in the information you provide.

[Updating your own guardian details on the Parent Portal and Arbor App](#)

Independent Learning (IL)

We make sure students have regular opportunities to recall and review their knowledge. The more frequently students do this, the easier it is for them to retrieve knowledge from their long-term memory. Students' independent learning will, in the main, be set on Seneca,



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Mathswatch and Carousel. Exceptions may be, for example, where the most appropriate platform for completing assignments is in the Google Suite e.g Drive, Classroom or Quiz.

All students will have passwords and usernames for each platform.

Seneca - <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

Username: Your school email address

Password - set by user - if you forget use the reset password link via your school

email Mathswatch - <https://vle.mathswatch.co.uk/>

Username: initialsurname@wellacre (eg: jshiner@wellacre)

Password: The password will either be Wellacre or the username repeated, unless the student has changed it.

Carousel - The link will be shared via Arbor Assignments. Click the link to the quiz and your son can log in with their first and last name. This must be as it appears on Arbor.

Year 7 parents and carers will have to wait until their child starts with us to activate an account. We understand that it will take time for Year 7 students to be introduced to new systems and there are no consequences for not getting things right in their first few weeks. We want to introduce and then embed new routines; this takes time and they may need your help.

We have a Homework Club every Monday and Tuesday in the Library, 3-3.45pm. All students are welcome and Inclusion Staff will be available for support. There are also opportunities at lunch time to access learning set by teachers.

We will continue to grade 'Commitment to Independent Learning' in Interim reports.

Allergy safety

From 1 September 2026, all schools in England must follow new legal requirements under Benedict's Law to improve allergy safety. In line with this legislation, our school has updated its Whole-School Allergy Policy, all staff have undertaken updated training and we have stocked backup adrenaline auto-injectors (AAIs). If your child has a diagnosed allergy and you have not informed us, please do so before the start of term. Please also ensure any medications are provided and in-date. Thank you for helping us keep all our students safe.

Miscellaneous reminders!

I am aware that Year 7 students might not know the following, so it is worth letting you know so that no-one has an uncomfortable conversation in their first few days! A few of our older students might also need a quick reminder:



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- We have asthmatic students in school so we **do not allow aerosols** on site.
- Energy drinks like 'Monster', are not allowed in school as they are not recommended for children.
- 'Selling' in school is not allowed and this includes confectionery. Any students caught selling will face consequences and any 'stock' will be confiscated for parents to collect.
- We are extremely vigilant around vaping. **It is not a risk free alternative to smoking and vapes and similar products are being deliberately marketed at young people.** We will continue to educate our students as to the considerable risks and the consequences for any of our students found in possession of such items. We are reliant on your full support. Please get in touch if you are concerned. We can make referrals to the School Nurse who is an excellent source of support for our students and families. [Vaping Guide.fv.pdf](#)

- Fidget tools

Accessible Support and Advice

The pastoral and wellbeing support we offer students is excellent. We have a number of safe and welcoming spaces open for all our students to access. Each day will start with House line-ups and then Tutor Time. Both will provide an opportunity for students to share any concerns or worries with their Head of House or their Tutor and we encourage them to do so.

Irlam Road, Flixton, Manchester M41 6AP
Tel: 0161 748 5011 Email: admin@wellacre.org Website: www.wellacre.org
Twitter: @WellacreAcademy Facebook: /Wellacre
Principal: Mrs J. Sharrock



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Inclusion staff will also signpost additional support should it be needed. **If you are aware that your son, or indeed you, are struggling with any issues, including those around mental health and wellbeing, then please let us know and we always do our best to help.** This resource may be of use to you. [Safeguarding at Wellacre](#)

Policies

All our key policies can be found on our website [Policies | Wellacre Academy](#) Many of them are due for approval in Governing Board meetings this term and will be updated on the website in due course.

Keeping in touch

Please look out for a letter next week from your son's Head of House which will include key contacts and key information to support you in best supporting your son at school.

Please do join the school lottery if you are able as it will continue to boost our school project funds [Wellacre School Lottery](#)

I will continue to send a brief 'Principal's Update' electronically every Friday, and include the bulletin for the 'Week Ahead'. Please do have a read as I will try to keep you updated with the rich and varied activities in a typical Wellacre week.

Many thanks in anticipation of your ongoing support. Please do get in touch if you have any queries or feedback via admin@wellacre.org

As I say every year, I hope your child thrives in the weeks and months to come and Wellacre continues to prosper as a result of the strength of our partnerships. I am always excited about each year ahead and look forward to the opportunities we will create and what our boys can achieve.

Best wishes,

Mrs J Sharrock

Principal