

17 July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your support during another very busy and productive academic year. We are really grateful for the strong support that we have had from so many of our parents and carers, we really enjoy working with you. Likewise, I am so very proud of the huge amount of work and the commitment from our Governors. I would like to thank all our hardworking students for their many individual successes, and for demonstrating our school values and positive character traits throughout this year. Finally, I would like to thank all of our staff for their hard work and commitment throughout this year and for providing so many opportunities for our students.

The Class of 2025

We said farewell to our Year 11 students a few weeks ago. After 5 years at Mossley Hollins, our wonderful students from the Class of 2025 sat their public examinations. I am sure that you will join me in wishing the Class of 2025 good luck as they start the next phase of their education, training or employment. We are sure that their hard work will have paid off and look forward to seeing them in August when they collect their results.

The Class of 2030

We were delighted that almost 500 families chose Mossley Hollins as a preference for their child in September. This means that, once again, our Year 7 is heavily oversubscribed and we have a waiting list, with many parents appealing for a place with us. We do not take for granted the trust that families place in us and will continue to work hard to improve our provision.

We welcomed Year 6 to the school earlier this month for their transition days. Students were able to meet their Form Mentor and the other students in their form whilst taking part in a number of team building exercises, whilst putting our school values into practice. The first day finished with an Investiture Ceremony, where every child signed the Mossley Hollins' Charter and received a certificate welcoming them to our school, where they were able to take part in some formal lessons for day two. We all very much enjoyed meeting our new students and we look forward to officially welcoming the Class of 2030 in September.

End of year arrangements and start of new academic year 2025-26

School will close at **12.15pm on Friday 18th July.**

The Autumn Term begins for pupils on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025**

- Form lessons start for Year 7 students at 8.40 a.m. (school will be open from 8:20am and breakfast will be available at this time)
- Students in years 8, 9 10 and 11 should arrive at form rooms for 9:35 to start at 9:45am.

Please note - staff will be in school training and preparing for the year ahead on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September 2025.

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Tame River Education Trust

After what has been a very long and at times challenging journey, Mossley Hollins High School finally became a member of the Tame River Education Trust on 1st June 2025. The transition to academy status marks a significant milestone in our history. We are confident that joining the Trust will open doors to new opportunities, foster continuous improvement and enhance the educational experience for all.

Fabulous Highlights from this Year

It has been wonderful once again to provide a range of co-curricular opportunities for our students to complement their classroom learning. This has included:

Electives

Our electives programme continues to be very successful, with activities such as JASS, music, drama, art, sport, food technology and film club. It has been fabulous seeing our students enjoy these great experiences each week.

Trips and educational visits

Year 11 Religious Studies - students visited the Manchester Buddhist Centre, where they listened to an insightful talk covering key aspects of Buddhism. This was followed up with a visit by the Bishop Mark Davies where he shared insights into his role with a lively Q&A session.

Year 7 PGL - students experienced an outward-bound trip to PGL in April where they took part in a number of activities to promote their resilience and communication skills, activities such as Jacob's Ladder, the Big Swing and Raft Building. Earlier this week year 7 students also took part in a sponsored hike around Dovestones as they transition to Year 8 and get to know their new Form Mentors. These activities are such an important step in the ongoing progress of our students.

Duke of Edinburgh - Year 9 and 10 students took part in their Duke of Edinburgh expedition which marked the completion of the bronze and silver awards. Students demonstrated resilience, teamwork, physical endurance and navigation skills.

Year 9 Malaga - students had a fantastic experience when they visited Malaga last month. They represented the school with enthusiasm and impeccable behaviour, enjoying the Spanish culture, stunning architecture and historical sights.

Year 10 Berlin - Our recent Berlin trip brought our GCSE AQA History topics to life, linking learning on Cold War and Germany to the world beyond the classroom. The trip began with a visit to our partner school (Carl Zeiss Oberschule), where students attended lessons. Students and staff also visited Sachsenhausen concentration camp, led by Mr King, students were deeply engaged in a thought-provoking tour that sparked meaningful conversations and later visited a former Stasi prison in East Berlin, gaining insight into life under the East German regime and the experiences of political prisoners during the Cold War. The trip allowed everyone to immerse themselves in Berlin's history, exploring landmarks such as the East Side Gallery, Checkpoint Charlie, Brandenburg



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Gate and the Reichstag. Navigating Berlin's public transport added to the adventure and showed just how resourceful and independent our students could be. Thursday brought a special reunion with our partner school, where we visited the Berlin Embassy and attended an insightful presentation about the collaborative work between our schools. Though our return flight was unexpectedly cancelled, the students showed incredible maturity and good spirits as we made our way back to Mossley on Friday evening. From historical sightseeing to international friendships, this trip was a testament to our students' enthusiasm, curiosity, and exemplary behaviour throughout.

Year 10 Naples - Year 10 Geography students took part in an educational visit to Naples where they took part in activities such as a walk up Mount Vesuvius, a tour around the historical city of Pompeii, a boat ride around the Island of Capri to witness coastal features and finally a trip to Capri. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the activities during the day, but also playing ball games on the beach during the evening and having free time around tourist locations such as Castellammare, Sorrento and Capri. It has been noted by Mr Tomlinson on how incredibly well behaved the Year 10 students were and a real credit to the Humanities department but also to Mossley Hollins.

Creative Art

On 19th June this year we held our annual Art Exhibition, where our GCSE students proudly showcased their artistic talents. Students had worked really hard to create imaginative pieces of work.

Sports

Year 10 Boys Football Our Year 10 boys football team once again made it to the Tameside Cup Final, where they drew 1-1 with St Damian's. Unfortunately, the match was decided by penalties, and St Damian's came out on top. Despite the loss, the team played with immense character and resilience and were very unlucky not to secure the win. A fantastic effort from all involved!

Year 10 Girls Football The Year 10 girls football team also had a brilliant run, making it to the Tameside Cup Final. In a closely contested match against All Saints High School, the game ended in a draw and went to penalties, where our team narrowly missed out. A great achievement and performance by the girls.

Year 8 Netball Our Year 8 netball team were crowned Tameside Cup Champions after an exciting 19-14 win over Fairfield Girls' School in the final. A huge congratulations to the players. An incredible performance by a talented team!

Year 8 Athletics The Year 8 athletics team recently competed at the East Cheshire Athletics Track. The girls finished an impressive 2nd overall in Tameside, while the boys placed 4th overall. Well done to all athletes involved.

Tameside Athletics Championships Earlier this month, students from across the year groups took part in the Annual Tameside Athletics Championships and achieved fantastic results. Special congratulations to Olivia and Max (Year 8), who both finished 1st in the 800m final, earning gold medals and to all of our other students also received medals on the day—well done to everyone who took part!

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Performing Arts

We were extremely proud to see so many of our students take part in our school production. "The Addams Family", which sold out on all 3 nights, with students performing to packed audiences. This was followed, a few weeks later, with another fantastic Dance show, choreographed by Miss Shaw. For the first time ever, the dance show run over two nights. The audience enjoyed accomplished performances from students across all year groups. As always, I am in awe of the wonderful, talented students who performed in these events. More recently our fabulous band led out the Whit Walks around Mossley, before taking part in the Whit Friday Band Contest in the evening, bringing back a number of awards. This was followed by our wonderful end of year musical evening including musical talents across all year groups.

Careers, Information, Education and Guidance

Year 10 students took part in their first careers event where they visited the JD Up event in Manchester which is hosted by JD Sports, providing students with valuable insight into a wide range of career opportunities, this was followed up with an in-school event led by Tameside College, where students were able to explore different courses that they may be interested in studying when they finished their secondary education. Just a few weeks ago they then took part in 'Futures Week', with activities including formal interviews, finance and study workshops, taster sessions at Ashton 6th form, Tameside College and Clarendon. The week finished with a trip to Edgehill where staff were really impressed with their maturity and great manners.

Year 8 students also took part in a careers event this year, joining students from our primary partnership for the annual careers fair and interactive workshops related to careers.

Year 11 students were involved in an inspiring and action-packed visit to UA92 (University Academy 92) where they took part in a fabulous blend of academic, career-focussed and practical activities, gaining an insight into university life and future opportunities.

Student Leadership

Our students led the MacMillan coffee morning in October, raising almost £450 for the charity.

A group of year 10 students have been supported by colleagues from the Rotary Club when they undertook the Leadership and Management qualification. The students involved have successfully raised money to design and create a new reading corner within our On-Board Centre, whilst achieving excellent grades (and feedback from the assessors) in the process.

Earlier this week, our student leaders have organised further fundraising activities, including a tombola and a very popular 'sponge the teacher' event.

Mossley Schools Partnership – A Year of Enrichment and Opportunity

We've had a fantastic year working closely with staff and students across the Mossley Schools Partnership. It's been a joy to welcome so many young learners to Mossley Hollins High School and to see them thrive in a range of exciting events and activities. Here are just a few highlights:

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Year 3 Languages Day Our school was buzzing with energy as Year 3 pupils joined us to begin their journey into the Spanish language. They enjoyed learning basic words, singing songs, playing games, and even sampling some delicious Spanish treats prepared by our staff.

Sporting Events From basketball tournaments and dodgeball competitions to the much-anticipated Mossley Olympics, our young athletes had plenty of opportunities to shine. These events celebrated teamwork, perseverance, and the sporting progress made throughout the year.

A Taste of Shakespeare A real cultural highlight was the interactive performance of Hamlet by the Young Shakespeare Company. The children were captivated by this engaging introduction to Shakespeare, which brought the story to life in a way that was both fun and educational.

Music and Performance The Big Sing and our Brass Musical Event gave students the chance to showcase their musical talents. Whether playing a brass instrument or singing their hearts out in our beautiful Arts Theatre, the children impressed us all with their enthusiasm and dedication.

Debating Society Our young debaters took part in three lively debates this year, developing their research, reasoning, and public speaking skills. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow with each session.

All in all, it's been an exciting and enriching year for the children of Mossley. We're incredibly proud of their achievements and look forward to welcoming many of them as full-time members of our school community in the future.

Learning Awards

It was great to be able to celebrate the many wonderful successes of our students at the Year 7-10 learning awards on Thursday evening.

Learning in school – Year 7 students were introduced to our library at the beginning of the Autumn term with our book tasting bistro, where they had the opportunity to 'taste' different genres of books.

The whole school community came together in November as we held our Remembrance Service, with some excellent readings and musical performances from our students.

Students across the school took part in the annual anti-bullying week activities, encouraging students to take a stand against bullying and promoting an environment built on respect and kindness.

In December our students benefitted from a virtual author visit from Christina Wyman, who is based in the USA. Shakespeare day was celebrated in the library and in our English department, bringing literature to life.

Year 8 students showcased their creative talents with Aboriginal Inspired Clay Tiles.

We hosted visitors from our school exchange programme where we have links with Carl Zeiss Obershule in Berlin.

Students from years 7 to 10 took part in a spelling bee at Great Academy School, Axl in year 9 and Charlotte in year 10 both secured 1st place for their respective years.

World Book Day provided an opportunity for students and staff to foster their love of reading and literature, taking part in a number of activities in English lessons and in the library including a Character Battle oracy challenge.

Students have engaged in a range of assemblies covering a whole host of topics, including Knife Crime and the OutLoud Assemblies which were delivered as part of the Greater Manchester Hate Crime Awareness Week helping students to deepen their understanding of crucial topics.

We have had a number of life skills days this year, covering topics such as Drugs and Alcohol, Consent, Citizenship, Healthy Relationships, Gang Recruitment & County Lines, Knife Crime and Personal safety.

Our year 10 students took part in the annual Connect with Spain Live Language exchange where they took part in a live video conference with students from La Coruna school in Spain, providing an opportunity for them to practise their speaking and listening skills.

Trust Activities

In February science students in both Mossley Hollins and Droylsden Academy came together to celebrate British Science Week, participating in a special library Science Read and Review, encouraging students to delve into scientific literature, foster critical thinking and enhance their ability to articulate complex ideas.

In April our students joined students from the other two trust schools as they came together for the Trust maths battle. Their enthusiasm and dedication to mathematics were evident throughout the event.

Recently colleagues from all 3 schools in the Trust took part in Trust Peer Reviews. This helped us to identify best practice across the schools and identify further development. The feedback from the reviews will help us to shape our teacher development training for next year and beyond.

Uniform

We are very proud of the way our students present themselves and we receive many positive comments about the standard of their appearance. Please remember the important information regarding uniform, especially shoes, so that we can begin learning next year without delay or distraction. This is a red-line of ours. Students attending this school wear their uniform to a high standard. Please see the school website for more information.

Our uniform is available for sale at Simply Schoolwear in Greenfield and at Debonair in Ashton-under-Lyne. If you are facing financial hardship you may wish to contact us in relation to uniform purchase. There will be a slight change to the year group patches in that they must now be sewn on. We have tried a number of options with the iron on patch, but feel that the most effective solution is a sewn-on patch. Please note that this is a compulsory part of the uniform.

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Mobile Phones

May we remind all students that **mobile phones and smart devices are not permitted in school**. This ensures that we avoid distractions to learning. If discovered, any such devices will be confiscated for a period of 3 weeks (or until the end of the term/half term, whichever is sooner). Students who wish to bring phones to school should hand them into student reception at the start of the day and collect them at 3.00pm. I do not want this issue to ever get in the way of teaching and learning and remain very grateful for your support.

Lockers

It is important that every student in Years 7-11 has a locker to store coats, PE kits and bags. Years 10 and 11 **must** have a secure place to store bags during internal and external examinations and it is **compulsory** that they have a locker for this purpose. Lockers are allocated on the first day: students will be required to pay a refundable deposit of £5. Please ensure they have this.

Important Information for the New Academic Year: Staff Leaving and New Appointments

As is the case in every school at the end of an academic year, we say farewell to a small number of staff. The following staff will be starting new posts in September due to promotions, end of contract, and/or relocations.

Miss B Matthews – maths

Miss J Bardsmith – science

Miss S Doodson – Spanish (primary provision)

Mr C Graham – science (fixed term contract)

Miss K Lea (science) and Miss Padgett (Spanish) have decided to take up posts outside of teaching and nearer to home following maternity leave.

We thank all our colleagues for their contribution to our young peoples' learning and wish them well.

A number of new staff will join us in the new term:

Mr D Patel (science)

Miss K Holt (maths)

Mr S Henshaw (Spanish)

We wish our new colleagues every success in their new roles.

Reporting and Parents' Evenings

We want to ensure that parents are kept up to date with the progress of their children. Whilst you can get in touch at any point of the year to discuss your child's progress with their Form Mentor or Head of Year (progress), you will receive reports at specific points. We also strongly encourage you to attend the face-to-face parents' evening where you will have the opportunity to discuss progress and their experience with your child's teachers. Please see below for the relevant dates for your child's reports and parents' evening in 2025-26

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	Parents' evening	1 st report issued	Final report issued
Year 7	26/2/26	26/2/26	30/6/26
Year 8	22/1/26	22/1/26	17/7/26
Year 9	26/3/26	26/3/26	17/7/26
Year 10	7/5/26	4/12/25	13/7/26
Year 11	11/12/25	11/12/25	17/3/26

Please note that there will also be a year 11 parent partnership evening on 16th October. The evening will include tips and advice on how to best support your son/daughter as they prepare for their final examinations.

There will also be a year 7 settling-in evening on 9th October. The evening will allow parents to hear directly from your child's form mentor on how they have settled into their new secondary school.

Thank you once again for your fantastic support this year. On behalf of all our students, staff and governors, we wish you a wonderful summer holiday.

Yours faithfully,

**Mrs A Din
Headteacher
Mossley Hollins High School**

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