

9th September 2022



**Morecambe Bay
Academy**

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to our weekly roundup where we share news from around the academy.

I write to you on this first day of national mourning with sad news of the death of a colleague here at school. On Saturday, Dave McFall, a PE teacher with 25 years of dedicated service, sadly passed away.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this difficult time. Dave was a key member of the PE department and was heavily involved in sporting clubs in the community. We will miss him greatly.

The funeral is on Thursday 15th September and the family have arranged that the funeral cortege will pass school shortly after 3pm so that staff and pupils can line the road to pay their respects. We are working with the police to ensure the safety of all concerned. We intend that school will close slightly earlier that day, at 2.50pm, to give pupils time to line the road. May I suggest that parents who are picking up their children that afternoon do not use Dallam Road.

I understand that these deaths may cause some upset, especially if your family have experienced illness of grandparents or perhaps a recent bereavement. Where children are upset, may I suggest you access this website, [Minded](#) which contains resources and information to support children to manage death and loss:

Finally, please note that school starts at 8.45am and it is advisable that pupils are in school at 8.40am so that they are in form on time. I realise that some local roadworks and other disruption is currently happening so parents are advised to send your children a little earlier to ensure their timely arrival

Have a great weekend

Gavin Gomersall

Principal

Relationships and sex education policy

As part of our policy review process, we have amended our Relationships and sex education policy to reflect the latest guidance and are seeking the views of parents about the policy and any items therein which parents wish to make before the policy is sent to Governors. The policy can be downloaded and read at <https://morecambebayacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/RSE-Policy-2022.pdf>

If having read it, you wish to make a comment about the policy, please send your points by email to RSEconsultation@morecambebayacademy.co.uk. All comments will be printed for Governors to read and reflect upon before they make their decision about this policy. Please may we have comments before the end of the month.

Mark Salthouse
Vice Principal

Behaviour Update

First, of all can I say thank you, we are proud of the students, they have come back to school following their break, typically well dressed and behaved whilst showing an excellent attitude to their learning.

Next week Mr Johnson will write a piece in the newsletter about our praise system which both recognises and rewards students on the many occasions they show these qualities.

However, I would like to bring your attention to a few pieces of housekeeping:

Students are asked to:

- A. Have the following equipment for school: pen, pencil, ruler and the planner we provide. All these items are provided by the office but where students arrive in lesson without them they will be given a lunchtime detention.
- B. Wear their uniform with pride, which in particular means:
 - School shoes worn at all times.
 - Blazers worn at all times.
 - The waistband of skirts should be visible at all times.
 - One plain stud earring per ear, no loop earrings or nose studs.
 - That all coats or other garments should be worn over their blazer not under.

We are aware that there has been a shortage of ties from the suppliers, they are now in stock and can be bought from the office for £7:50. Likewise if students have a missing item, loan items are available to borrow. If there is case of hardship please get in touch with your child's Head of Year and we will support.

Students uniform is checked regularly where it is not correct, the indiscretion is recorded, when there have been three occurrences in a half term it results in an afterschool detention. Subsequent occurrences (5, 7, 9, 11) results in a day in the red line consequence room. Inappropriate items will be placed in in the office for collection at the end of the day.

Phones should be switched off, out sight in school bags from the moment students come through the gate to the moment they pass through it at the end of the day. If they are seen, they are confiscated and placed in the office for collection at the end of the following day.

Having written these reminders, I wish to reiterate that the vast majority of our students do things in the right way, but at the start of term wished to be clear in our expectations on these points to all parents. Details of our all expectations are shared below.

Enjoy the weekend,

Richard Senior

Vice Principal

Expectations at Morecambe Academy.

We set our values at Morecambe Bay Academy using our value first value of "Belong". We believe that, so we are all able to feel we belong at MBA it means:

- We respect others right to learn in a disruption free environment.
- Follow staff instruction, first time, every time.
- Being kind to others, avoiding any name calling or language that causes upset.

We welcome and are proud when students:

- Arrive on time, ready to learn, with the correct equipment and uniform.
- Listen to their teacher and follow classroom routines.
- Day in day out act with kindness to others.
- Do what they asked first time, every time.
- Report, instead of responding, when people are hurtful to others, this includes mean, rude, discrimination language on and off line along with dangerous and bullying behaviours.
- Keep their "Hands off" to ensure others feel safe, resources are maintained, and the environment is cared for.

When students don't follow these expectations and act in a negative, disrespectful manner we will take action.

The detentions will be used when students are:

- Not being ready to learn; arriving late, without the correct equipment and/or uniform.
- Causing disruption; refusing to sit in a seating plan, shouting out, answering back, not responding to warnings or following routines.
- Not following instruction by delaying compliance or arguing with staff.
- Name calling or teasing, being Intentionally rude or arguing with my peers.
- Running in the building or toy fighting.

More serious incidents are called red lines, as the students have crossed a red line. They are investigated and a decision is made if the students is placed for a period of time in the Red Line Consequence Room, spend time in isolation, be suspended from school or asked to attend a "Step Out" at another school. Our Red lines are:

Cause serious disruption to learning by:

- Demonstrating repeated poor behaviour in lessons.

Challenging the teacher's authority such as:

- Refusing good neighbour.
- Being deliberately late or truanting lessons.

Showing defiance by:

- Walking away from staff.
- Not following a request.
- Refusing to complete a consequence.

Acting in a manner that causes or risks causing harm to others:

- Verbal and or physical abuse to staff and students.
- Discrimination, such as racist, homophobic, and transphobic comments or actions.
- Bullying in person or online
- Peer on peer abuse
- Fighting
- Theft and vandalism
- Handling any prohibited items, cigarettes, vapes, drugs, alcohol and weapons.

In addition to remove problems before they happen, we will make the following amendments to our expectations:

Phones or any other mobile electronic device must be out of sight and switched off from the moment students walk through the school gate to the moment they leave. We appreciate that you may want your child to have a phone for safety reasons walking home. But mobile phones are not conducive to learning and we do not allow them to be used in school. If pupils' phones are seen, in use or not, the phone will be confiscated and returned the following day one production of a note from parents. To avoid this potential circumstance, please impress upon your child how important it is to have the phone switched off and in their bag.

Water: there is clear evidence that pupils learn best when hydrated. However, evidence also shows that fizzy drinks do not hydrate as well, and the additives they contain are not conducive to learning. Plus, they are more expensive. Therefore, only water will be permitted to be brought into school from September. All pupils should ensure they have a water bottle they can drink from.

Uniform: the sense of belonging is best demonstrated by wearing the uniform with pride. We shall continue to uphold the highest standards of dress. All pupils must have a blazer and tie every day. All pupils must wear black leather or imitation leather shoes. If parents are having issues with the cost of uniform for their child, they should contact the school to discuss this matter.

Parent Pay

Welcome back to the new academic year.

May we bring to your attention to a facility which is available on Parent Pay. The Academy allows parents the choice to set up alerts as reminders to placing top-up funds onto your child's lunch account once the credit balance reaches £2.50. We respectfully ask that parents ensure they maintain funds on their child/ren's lunch accounts in order to ensure efficient operation of our dining facilities, however we appreciate that parents have busy lives and occasionally omit to top up a student's lunch funds in time for mealtimes, and for this reason please be assured we will not let a child go without any food during a school day whilst contact is made with parents as a reminder to

place additional funds onto their accounts. However, may we highlight that this reminder alert facility is unique to each individual account and needs to be set up by the parent.

Please note:

Text messages are disabled by default due to the charges that occur from this facility. The Academy cannot set up alerts on behalf of parents. Parents have to enable alerts themselves using the instructions below.

Text alerts come with a cost of 0.06p being charged to the parent's account

Email alerts are FREE to receive. Please ensure you choose the correct box if you are wishing to enable this facility on your child/ren's account.

Three easy steps to enable automated SMS text alerts:

Step 1: Register your mobile number If payers wish to subscribe to automated SMS text alerts, and have received their registration PIN, they must log back into their ParentPay account, go to the **Profile Settings - Telephone numbers** and ensure they have entered their PIN in here to register.

Step 2: Top up your SMS text balance Automated SMS text alerts are paid for by the account holder at a charge of 0.06p per message sent – payers must ensure that they have a SMS text balance of at least £2.40. Topping up is easy, simply go to **Communication - Text Message Balance** and click Add Credit Now.

Step 3: Choose the alerts you want to receive under **Communication - Alert Settings**

The payer will see different options, such as Balance alerts, New item alerts etc. and under each of these will be the child's name, and 2 tick boxes

Tick these depending on which you prefer to receive. **PLEASE NOTE: Email alerts are free, but text alerts are 6p a text.**

Once done, scroll down and click save.

Mrs Kennedy

Director of Finance

SEND Information

Does your family include a child or young person with SEND?

You are invited to attend a drop-in **Information Event** in your local area

SEND Information Events for Parents and Carers

Fun activities for children will be available – everyone welcome!

Milton Street Youth Zone, Fleetwood –
Monday 12th September 10am – 2pm
The Exchange, Burnley –
Monday 19th September 10am – 2pm
County Hall, Preston –
Tuesday 4th October 9:30am – 12:30pm

Book a place on [Eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) – search for Lancashire SEND Partnership.

SEND Family Fun and Information Events

Further sessions to be announced soon.



- Find out what's on offer in your local area
- Understand what services are available
- Discover local support groups
- Refreshments will be provided

Representatives from the following services will be available at some or all of the events:

- Lancashire Parent Carer Forum
 - Break Time
 - Inclusion Service
 - Specialist Teaching Service
 - Lancashire Local Offer
 - Designated Clinical Officer Service
 - POWAR youth voice group
 - SEND Information, Advice and Support Team
 - FIND Newsletter
 - Young people's groups
 - Transitions
- Plus local service providers, support groups and lots more!*

Between August 2022 and July 2023, we are planning 24 events, to take place in all districts of Lancashire.

Further dates will be shared on the Local Offer website and facebook page.

www.lancashire.gov.uk/SEND www.facebook.com/LancashireLocalOffer



Title: FIND Newsletter Autumn 2022

Please find below the link for the FIND Newsletter.

[FIND Newsletter Autumn 2022](#) PDF 6.66 MB

Lancaster Fun Palace



LANCASTER FUN PALACE 2022

SATURDAY 1 OCTOBER (10am-4pm)

at Lancaster Library & other city venues

*Drama, Arts, Crafts, Science fun, Photo walk,
and much more. FREE fun for all ages!*

More information: email: funpalacelancaster@gmail.com

