

PARENT/CARER NOTICES

Autumn 1: Monday 14th September 2026

Tuesday 15th September – Year 7 and 8 Curriculum Information Evening

Wednesday 16th September – Year 9 Curriculum Information Evening

Thursday 24th September – Open Evening Year 7 and 12 5-8pm

Thursday 24th September – Careers Fair 9.30am to 3.15pm

Tuesday 6th October – Year 7 Open Morning

Wednesday 7th October – Parent Carer Forum Meeting

Thursday 8th October – Year 12 Information and Support Evening

Thursday 15th October – Year 7Q Parent/Carer Evening Online

Wednesday 21st October – Year 11 Mock Exam Information Evening

Thursday 22nd October – Year 7X Parent/Carer Evening Online

Monday 26th October – HALF TERM

Monday 2nd November – DISAGGREGATED PD DAY – ACADEMY CLOSED TO STAFF AND STUDENTS

Tuesday 3rd November – Staff and students return

General Notices

Bus Transport Issues

I would like to apologise to parents and carers for the significant delays that have affected a number of school bus routes over the past week and a half.

Whilst these services are operated independently of the Academy and the circumstances causing the delays are outside of our control, we fully appreciate how frustrating and disruptive this has been for students and families. We have been in regular contact with our transport providers, raising concerns and submitting formal complaints where appropriate.

We understand that a combination of roadworks, traffic incidents and other unforeseen traffic issues have contributed to the disruption. However, we recognise that this does not lessen the impact on those affected, and we are continuing to monitor the situation closely.

In particular, we have raised specific concerns regarding the Bus 16 route, where delays have been especially problematic. We will continue to work with our transport partners to

ensure that these concerns are addressed and that every effort is made to improve reliability.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to advocate on behalf of our students and families. We will provide further updates should there be any significant developments.

Wednesday Enrichment (1440-1540) Update

Please be aware that we are still having to make updates to the MCAS app before we can launch all of the enrichment and lessons that will run during the optional Wednesday Period 5. We want to make absolutely sure that the registration system will work before we launch this for all activities. We are going to advertise and trial a small number of clubs this week before the whole offer is opened. A separate message will be sent out with the details of clubs available very soon. Thankyou for your patience.

Please be reminded that all of our bus services (including public buses) are aligned to the earlier time of 1440 every Wednesday. Students attending Wednesday enrichment will need to sign up for the late bus or to make separate travel arrangements.

Open Evening Prospective Year 7 and Year 12: 24th September

We are looking forward to our forthcoming Open Evening, one of the most important events in the Academy calendar. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase everything that makes Mildenhall College Academy a great place to learn, both for prospective Year 7 students and for those considering joining MCA6 in Year 12.

This year, the event will be a double Open Evening, welcoming both prospective Year 7 and prospective Year 12 students and their families. We are keen to attract as many visitors as possible and would be delighted to see a strong turnout from our current students, particularly those in Year 11 who may be considering their next steps at MCA6.

To help make the evening a success, we will also be seeking student volunteers to support the event. Miss Powling will be leading arrangements on the main academy site, while Miss

Coxall will coordinate activities at MCA6. Alongside our Prefect team, student helpers will play a vital role in welcoming visitors, providing tours and sharing their experiences of academy life. If your child is selected or volunteers to support the event, they will receive a permission letter which will need to be signed and returned by a parent or carer. Thank you in advance for your support. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our visitors and celebrating all that Mildenhall College Academy and MCA6 have to offer.

Safeguarding and Pastoral Information

Kooth has evolved into 'Soluna' by Kooth

Many of you will know that we refer to Kooth as a free, safe mental health support service for young people. We want to let parents and carers know that this service has evolved into 'Soluna' by Kooth - now available as a mobile app or web version. Delivered in partnership with the NHS and local councils, Soluna by Kooth helps young people navigate everyday challenges, from exam stress and anxiety, to friendship issues and general overwhelm. There is no cost, no need for a referral, and no waiting lists. Soluna offers:

- **Real, professional support:** Soluna's one-to-one text chats are accredited by the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) and are delivered by qualified practitioners – never chatbots. Sessions are available every day up to 10pm, including weekends.
- **Expert resources:** the platform is packed with interactive stories, activities, and tools. Every piece of content is written by clinical experts and carries the PIF TICK quality mark, meaning it's evidence-based, up-to-date, and easy to understand.
- **An age-appropriate and safe space:** content and peer spaces are age-gated so young people only see material suitable for them. Our community spaces are pre-moderated by professionals who review every single word before anything is published, and users cannot privately message each other.

Find out more - visit www.SolunaByKooth.com

Supporting Young People's Mental Health

Please see the attached leaflets regarding supporting young people's mental health.

Attendance

If your child ever arrives to the Academy late as a result of their County provided bus, please be assured they will receive a present mark on their arrival and not a late mark. When there are issues with the buses and their punctuality again please be reassured they we will liaise with County Transport to try and overcome any concerns asap.