

1 September 2026

Re: Return to School

Dear families and carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer break.

We have had a fantastic summer at John Mason School, celebrating [GCSE](#) and [A Level](#) Results Days and seeing our students achieve some excellent outcomes. We have also made significant improvements to the school site over the holidays, including upgrades to classroom IT equipment and a major refurbishment of student toilets, which I know many students will be pleased to see.

Our staff returned to school today and there is a real sense of excitement as we prepare to welcome students back later this week.

Return dates:

- **Years 7, 11 and 12:** Thursday 3 September
- **Years 8, 9, 10 and 13:** Friday 4 September

School gates will open from **8:10am**, with students aiming to arrive by **8:30am** ready for an **8:35am** start.

As you complete your final preparations for the new term, please take a moment to review the information previously shared about [uniform and equipment](#). Students will receive their new planners and timetables on the morning of their first day prior to lessons starting.

A reminder that, in line with national guidance, John Mason School is a **phone-free school**. Any student bringing a phone or smartwatch onto site will be required to hand it in at Reception at the start of the day and collect it at the end. Students using this system should allow a little extra time when arriving at school. We request that students leave their devices at home whenever possible.

Finally, if your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please report to our absence line as early as possible on and before 8:30am on each day of absence:

Email: absence@johnmason.school (preferred option)

Phone: 01235 524664

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and to another successful year together.



Alastair West
Headteacher