

Being Walkden

Year 7 first day, read more on page 5



Be yourself,
always

Do what
matters most

Show you
care

Succeed
together

Dates for your diary

Monday 16 September - Homework will be set from this week.

Tuesday 24 September - Year 8 HPV Immunisations

Wednesday 25 September - Year 8 Food showdown (More details to follow next week)

Thursday 26 September - Academy closed for INSET Day

Thursday 26 September - Open Evening. (If your child is required to help with the event you will receive a letter next week)

A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents and carers

Welcome to our first newsletter of the year and what a brilliant start to the new academic year it's been for all pupils! Thank you all for your support in preparing your children for their return to school and for your on-going support during their first weeks back.

A particular well done to our new Year 7's who have settled incredibly well into their new surroundings. All students have started the term looking very smart and ready to learn - we really appreciate your support with the uniform changes too.

There's already much to celebrate and we hope you enjoy reading about it on our socials and in this newsletter.

A couple of points to note and update you on:

1. The lunch queues. We are aware that some pupils have had to queue longer than they should for food at lunch. When this has happened, we have been flexible with the end of their lunch break, so that they are not disadvantaged. However, we are working with the catering company (Dalkia) to ensure that the correct staffing levels can accommodate the volume of children and meal requests adequately and anticipate that the start of term teething problems will settle quickly and that all pupils will be able to get their food within a 10-15 minute window, as they have previously.
2. Car Park. This notice is especially for new parents/carers who won't be aware of the congestion on site, particularly at the end of the school day. We have been in talks with planners to install a rising barrier at the entrance to the site on Old Clough Lane and will update you on this in due course. However, for immediate action, please do not drive onto the site at the end of the day to collect children. The space is inadequate to be able to park and/or turn around. As a result, the number of cars and frustrated drivers, creates a dangerous environment for children who are walking or cycling off site. Please help us and all the children by parking in the surrounding area and asking your child to walk to you.
3. Homework. We have been busy preparing our pupils to use Google Classroom and Arbor. From next week, pupils can expect to receive and should ensure they complete homework as directed by their teacher. Homework is an important element of holistic learning. You can find a link to our Homework principles and expectations [HERE](#).
4. School will be closed to pupils on Thursday 26th September. Just a reminder that this day is a training day for staff and therefore closed to pupils. In the evening, we will be hosting our annual Open Evening. Please spread the word far and wide and we look forward to welcoming lots of prospective families to our school to meet our staff and students. Many of our existing pupils have expressed their interest in helping out on the evening and just a reminder that if your child is a helper, to provide your consent for this to happen.

Best Wishes

Matt Hacker



Noticeboard

Attendance

Important information on the below link for parents/carers regarding absence from school from September 2024.

[Department for Education](#)

Please contact walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk if you require any further information or explanation.

Breakfast Club



Reminder that breakfast club is between 8am-8.25am Please ensure students arrive in plenty of time to get breakfast and sit down to eat this comfortably before lessons start at 8.30am

Absence Log and Communications

To report your child as absent, please use ONE of the available options below.

- You can call our Academy to report absence 0161 8501625 (Option 1).
- You can now use the 'log absence' function on your Arbor app. You can find this by going to Dashboard - Menu (three lines) - Attendance - Log Absence.

For any pre-planned absence's or appointments please email our Attendance Team walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk and include an attached appointment card or letter as evidence of the reason for the planned absence.

Whichever method you chose to use, please do this each day that your child is absent from school before 8.30am.

We will be turning off the Arbor In App message service for now as this is no longer required for absence logging.

For all other general queries please continue to use the academy mailbox walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk

Extra Curricular Activities

We have a number of Extra Curricular Activities running daily. Please see below timetables and speak to the relevant teacher or head of department for further information.

[Non PE Extra Curricular Timetable](#)

[PE Extra Curricular Timetable](#)

Parent/Carer Drop In Sessions

We will be holding regular drop in sessions throughout the year for parent/carers to drop in, ask questions and have discussions with staff. Below you will find a list of upcoming topics for each event so that you can add any of interest to your diary. These sessions are in person in the Academy 3-4pm

[Drop in Sessions](#)

Welcome Year 7

We would like to introduce our brand new Year 7 cohort, we are incredibly proud of the way you have settled in to life at Co-op Academy Walkden. We cannot wait to watch you learn and grow over the coming 5 years.



Post 16 Careers Event

Our Year 11 students started the year by attending a Post-16 careers fair, where they were able to speak to local colleges, 6th forms and apprenticeships about their future options. This event in school time was hugely successful and our students got a lot from the afternoon, we will also be hosting another event in the evening for parents/carers to also attend on Monday 18th November.



Feel Good Friday

This term, each week we will be hosting different events on Fridays, to celebrate succeeding and attending, a little boost to kick start start the weekend.

You will see things like :

Music madness; Lunchtime music played in the Atrium

Queue jump passes distributed

Vouchers

Music and board games over lunch

Film Friday; shown on the Atrium screen during lunch

Charity events

Raffles

Students can check Atrium screens on

Thursdays to see what's coming up on

Friday, we will also share this on Social media each week.



Library

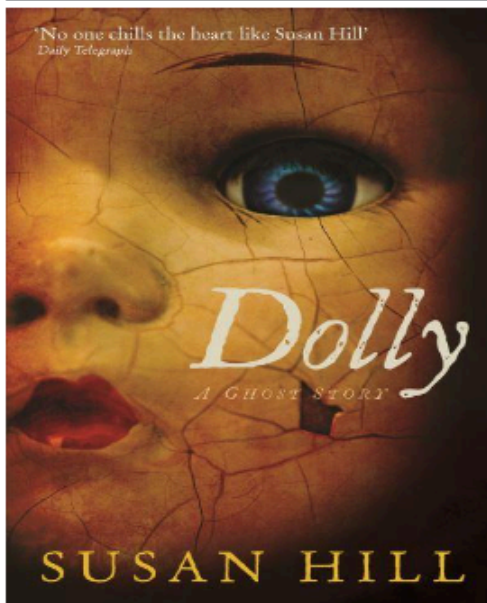
Each fortnight we will post a personal book review from one of our students. They will read the book and take the time to write a review for others to see, encouraging more students to pick up the book and give it a go.

Library Opening Times

Break	10:30 - 11:50
KS3 Lunch	12:50 - 1:25
KS4 Lunch	1:25 - 2:00
After school	3:00 - 3:40

Student book review

Dolly: a ghost story by Susan Hill (reviewed by Jessica, year 7)



This book is about two cousins – Edward, an orphan and the spiteful Leonora. When Leonora’s wish for a beautiful doll is thwarted, her violent act of revenge has terrible consequences many years afterwards when the two cousins meet again.

The characters felt real to me, and the story certainly kept me guessing in parts. It made me want to read to the end.

I would recommend this book to people who like ghost stories, but I did not find it scary – I would

compare it to the author’s other novel, “The Woman in Black”.

Star rating:



Teaching and Learning

Below you will see some of the teaching methods and routines we use and follow at Co-op Academy Walkden

These strategies are underpinned by research and we use these techniques in every lesson

Great Teaching at Co-op Academy Walkden



Co-op Academy
Walkden

Retrieval

All lessons start with a retrieval task, the Do Now and exposition of the Learning Question.

Recognition

All lessons take a warm-strict approach. Positive framing provides specific positive feedback, when taught expectations are met.

Modelling

All lessons include modelling, with worked examples: I - We - You.

Scaffolding

All lessons are adapted to include temporary scaffolds to support different abilities.

Independent Practice

All lessons include independent, silent practice. Pupils show ambition to succeed.

Understanding

All lessons include regular checks for understanding and frequent, skilled questioning.

Challenge

All lessons are ambitious and teachers have consistently high expectations.

Feedback

All lessons are underpinned by individualised and regular whole class feedback.

Routines at Co-op Academy Walkden



Co-op Academy
Walkden

Positive Entrance

Welcome pupils at the door. Pupils stand silently behind their desks awaiting instructions.

Learning Question

The Learning Question is visible throughout the lesson and pupils are ready to articulate it.

Productive Atmosphere

All pupils are engaged; heads are off desks, coats are off and bags are on the floor.

Attention

Questioning and discussions are inclusive, but also constructive using strategies; .i.e. Signal, Pause, Insist.

Independence

Pupils work silently and independently on tasks in the lesson, they show a shared sense of determination.

Controlled Exit

Pupils silently stand behind their desks awaiting dismissal row by row.

Community

Local charity HomeStart have shared the below posters with us in the hope that our Parents/Carers would like to be involved.

Childhood is precious
by joining our volunteer movement
you'll be helping to give children across
Trafford, Salford & Wigan the childhood they deserve



Gifting just two hours each week you could be:
A listening ear
A shoulder to cry on
A practical pair of hands

We are looking for volunteers in:
Trafford, Salford & Wigan

"I used my volunteering experience as a chance to increase my confidence, my low self esteem and sense of worth. After a couple of years, I became so passionate about family support, that I trained to become a social worker."
A Home-Start Volunteer

"As a retired nurse, I wanted to use my spare time to help others and to still feel engaged in my local community. And that's why I became a volunteer for Home-Start."
A Home-Start Volunteer



If you would like more information about becoming a volunteer, complete our Volunteer Enquiry form on our website www.hsts.org.uk/volunteer or call us on - 0161 865 4222 and please leave us a message



HOME START
Trafford,
Salford & Wigan

Uniform Shop

We have recently donated a lot of pre-loved Co-op Academy Walkden School uniform to the wonderful team at [Salford Step Into Action](#).

We can all do our bit for the environment and for our pockets by opting for pre-loved items rather than a full brand new school uniform this year.

You can message the team on Facebook or via their website or just pop into their shop to take a look.



**Thank you as
always for your
continued support.**

**Have a great
weekend.**

**Our Newsletter needs you, if you have any
students success stories to share or if you think
you have something to contribute to the next
newsletter, please email us at
walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk**