



Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

RMCG/KRE

3rd July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Name of Student: XXXX XXXX

I am absolutely thrilled to be writing to you as your child's new Principal. I hope to give you some clarity as to how the academy will open in September, what changes to expect at the academy and how we will make sure your child is welcomed properly to their new community. I am delighted that we will have over 180 students joining us in September, I am humbled that you have chosen our academy for your child and I take the responsibility for your child's education, welfare and safety as seriously as I would for my own child.

September Arrangements:

The academy will open as follows:

- Monday 2nd September 2024 – INSET Day
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024 – INSET Day
- Wednesday 4th September 2024 – Start of term for all students

The School Day:

Tutor Time:	08:35 to 09:00
Period 1:	09:00 to 10:40
Break:	10:40 to 11:05
Period 2:	11:05 to 12:45
Lunch:	12:45 to 13:30
Period 3:	13:30 to 15:10

Uniform:

You are able to purchase uniform from our supplier Your School Uniform.com. The link for our part of the website is: <https://www.yourschooluniform.com/schools/index/the-morton-school-4989>. We do have a selection of skirts and blazer sizes available in the academy for trying on purposes. If you wish to do this, please visit Reception between 3:30pm and 4:00pm during the week.

Please refer to the website for our uniform expectations (<https://www.rrma.org.uk/information/uniform>). The academy will also be operating a Swap Shop for most of our uniform items. This will be advertised on social media. Please note that jewellery is not permitted in the academy and that footwear should be black leather shoes.

/cont'd

Richard Rose Morton Academy, Wigton Road, Carlisle CA2 6LB

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Equipment:

When students arrive in September they should have adequate supplies of pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers and a calculator. Prior to your child joining the academy we will provide a link to purchase an equipment pack on Parent Pay which will be a pencil case with everything they will need should this make things easier for you. The academy will supply your child with a Knowledge Organiser and Self-Quizzing book. During their initial weeks students will be given a lanyard to access food/printing. We will then create an account using a fingerprint code to make access to purchasing items quicker and easier. Our new Year 7s will have photos taken early in the academic year. Our rules on mobile phones are clear, these devices should not be seen in the academy.

SatchelOne Home Learning Platform

The Academy uses this platform to support students in organising their home learning activities whilst also providing parents and carers with a real time overview of the tasks set and whether earlier work has been completed. SatchelOne offers both a website and mobile application which can be downloaded and used by parents and students. Details of how parents can log on will be sent out early in the academic year.

Parent App:

The Academy is using a Parent App called Arbor. This system will provide detailed information such as your child's lessons, attendance, assessment results, behaviour information, and school reports. The app will also allow you to communicate with the school through the in-app messaging system where you can read and send messages to/from the school. For a full guide on how to access the app and how to use it, please visit our website: <https://www.rrma.org.uk/information/transition> or watch this You Tube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znuzCX-oimw>

Form Tutor/Other Information:

We are happy to be able to tell you that your child will be in form **XX** and their Form Tutor will be **XXXX**.

We also have a parental handbook available on our website that has all the information you need to know about your child starting at the Academy, including: The Morton Pledge; Catering; Parent Pay; Attendance; Equipment; Co-curriculum; Support. This can be found at: <https://www.rrma.org.uk/information/transition>.

Initial Assessments:

At the start of September we will be carrying out some initial assessments of all Year 7s to gain as much information as possible to help us understand your child's academic ability. These will include:

- MidYIS Test – this is an online test which is used by schools to gain a sense of academic ability and is very accurate in predicting GCSE success.
- NGRT – this is an online reading assessment which provides us with reading ages for your child.
- There will also be some specific English and Maths tasks at the start of the academic year to assess current skills.

It is important that we have an opportunity to fully explore the current academic profile of students in order to address any potential issues as effectively as we can. We do not set Year 7s until at least the October half term.

/cont'd

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School Photograph – Tuesday 17th September 2024:

On Tuesday 17th September, the academy will have a school photographer visiting to take our new year 7 student's school photograph. Further information on how to purchase the photographs will be emailed in September.

Data Collection Sheet:

We would be grateful if you could complete the following Data Collection Sheet: [Data Collection Sheet \(https://forms.office.com/e/YyC0cExfks\)](https://forms.office.com/e/YyC0cExfks) to ensure we have the most up to date contact information for yourself. This also includes photo/media consent, internet access user policy consent and the Home/Academy Agreement.

Safeguarding:

The safeguarding of our students remains our highest priority and during the holiday period there can often be situations in which our families or students need support. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the pathways of reporting that are available to students and parents. During school closure you can contact the academy via email using the safeguarding@rrma.org.uk or complete the anonymised form on our website. Those methods of reporting are checked at points throughout the holidays by members of the Safeguarding Team and will be reviewed at the start of the next academic year. There are also links and support on our website that you can follow to gain advice from external agencies such as NSPCC, Kooth and Mind, if you or your child are concerned about mental health issues or need some advice and guidance. However, if you require immediate support or advice or are concerned that a child is at immediate risk of harm please contact the Cumbria Safeguarding Hub 0333 240 1727, the police 101/ 999 or Childline FREE 0800 1111.

I can't wait to meet our new students in September. We are already hearing lots of positive things from your Primary Schools and I hope you will have a happy time at Morton Academy. I hope all our new students and families have a restful summer break.

Yours sincerely

Richard McGuire
Principal