

# February 2026 news

#TheSwintonWay



Co-op Academy  
Swinton

## Huge Win for Year 8!

Our Year 8 boys secured a convincing 6-0 scoreline against The Albion Academy!

The teamwork and attitude was evident throughout, and it was great to see how much they supported each other on and off the pitch. Thanks to everyone who came out to cheer them on, it really made a difference.

Shout-out to Ezekiel, our Player of the Match, who came on at half-time and scored a superb second-half hat-trick!



## Key Dates

February 13th:  
Half-term 3 ends

March 5th:  
World Book Day

April 2nd:  
Half-term 4 ends

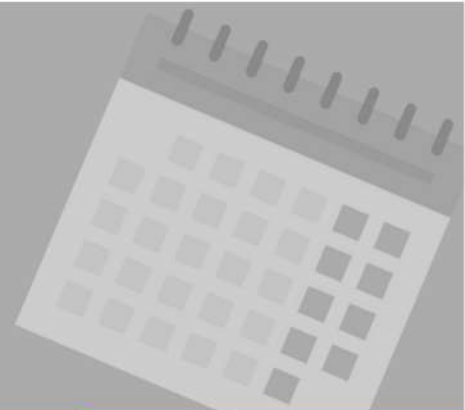
February 23rd:  
Half-term 4 begins

March 25th:  
Year 11 S Parents Evening

April 20th  
Half-term 5 begins

February 27th:  
Mock Exams End

April 1st:  
Year 11 T Parents Evening



# Principal's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of half-term 3 we have so much to celebrate. Once again our students have worked tirelessly in their lessons and extra curricular activities and we are so very proud of them.

Year 9 students have completed their options process in the run up to starting their GCSEs. The process began with our students attending two events. The first event was our annual Options Evening, which consisted of our departments setting up stalls in The Globe to highlight the benefit of choosing their subject, followed by a series of informative departmental assemblies. The second event was the parental consultation evening. This is a really important and exciting step for our Year 9 students to take as they continue their academic journey with us.

Year 7 and 8 students have been rewarded with the Principal's Breakfast for their hard work and are now working hard to prepare for their approaching assessment weeks.

Our Year 11 students have been working very hard preparing for their mocks that are taking place at the moment. They have been attending interventions at the end of the school day, online sessions in the evening and also completing additional interventions via Google Classrooms. Their commitment will continue over the half-term break as they attend additional intervention sessions. With not long left until actual GCSEs start, our Year 11s are putting 100% into all their learning and preparation.

As we finish this term with our reward assemblies for all year groups, I wish you a safe and healthy half term and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 23rd February at 8:30am.



# New ISAP Centre Opens!

We are pleased to announce the opening of our new ISAP Centre (Internal School Alternate Provision) a dedicated space designed to provide additional support for students who benefit from a more personalised and structured approach to learning.

The ISAP Centre offers a bespoke curriculum tailored to the needs of the cohort, ensuring students can continue to make strong academic progress alongside developing confidence, resilience and positive learning behaviours. With smaller group sizes, consistent staffing and a calm, focused environment, students are supported to engage successfully with their learning and reach their potential.

This new provision reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusion and to ensuring every student receives the right support at the right time.





# Year 9 Options Evening 2026

We were delighted to welcome Year 9 students and their parents/carers to our Options Evening, where pupils had the opportunity to explore the wide range of GCSE subjects available to them.

Departments were on hand to talk through what each course involves, the skills students will develop, and the future pathways and careers these subjects can lead to, helping students make informed choices about their next steps.

We would like to thank all parents and carers for such fantastic attendance and for the continued support you give your children during this important stage of their education. Your involvement plays a vital role in helping our students feel confident and prepared as they make these decisions.



A huge well done to our fantastic group of Year 7 students, Charlotte, Halima, Felicity, Chris and Jayden, who have achieved 100% attendance since joining our school!

Being in school every day really matters. Great attendance means more learning, stronger friendships and the best chance to succeed, and these students have shown incredible commitment and dedication from the very start of their secondary school journey.

We're so proud of the positive example they're setting and the effort they put into their learning every single day.





# 7ETX Earns VIP Old Trafford Experience

As a reward for being one of the top 5 forms for attendance last term, 7ETX enjoyed an unforgettable stadium tour of Old Trafford.

Led by Manchester United tour guides, students explored the club's history and went behind the scenes to see the players' dressing room and press room. They also walked through the iconic players' tunnel and out onto the pitch to "This Is The One" by The Stone Roses, before sitting on the team bench, visiting the dugout, and finishing in the Manchester United Museum.



**Foundation**



# Geography

This term in Geography, our Year 8 students have been exploring how developed the UK really is. They examined the global distribution of development, identified which countries are the most developed, and then delved into key indicators such as literacy rates, life expectancy, and gross national income.

By using all their research and evidence our students have become able to form their own judgements on how developed the UK is, despite being the 6th richest country in the world.

Mr Day has chosen Ethan as an outstanding example of book work. His work stood out for its excellent depth, clear organisation, and well-reasoned judgement, showing a strong understanding of the topic.





# Anti Bullying Ambassadors Announced!



We're absolutely delighted to announce our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for 2026!

They've received their badges from Mr Stanley and Mrs Ali and will be wearing them proudly around the school.

The ambassadors will meet every half-term and take part in training to help promote kindness, respect, and a bullying-free school.



# Year 9 Students Engage in Powerful Mental Health Workshop

Our Year 9 students took part in a powerful and immersive mental health workshop during their Life Learning session, hosted by Odd Arts.

The students watched a performance of "Unspoken" a compelling piece that explores the complexities of mental health, trauma, and the importance of speaking out. It was brilliant to see our students engage so thoughtfully with such sensitive topics.



## Year 11 Take on Mock Interviews

Recently, all of our Year 11 students took part in a 1-to-1 interview with an employer, giving them valuable experience of the interview process and the types of questions they may be asked in the future.

The employers were full of praise for our students, who approached the experience with maturity and enthusiasm.

Each student will receive personalised verbal and written feedback to support their next steps. A huge thank you to our volunteer partners Bunzl, the Manchester United Foundation, Careers Connect, and our very own HR department for giving up their time to support and inspire our students.





# Principal's Breakfast

We were delighted to host our first Principal's Breakfasts, celebrating the creativity, dedication and hard work of our talented Year 7 and Year 8 students in Art.

Our Year 7 students were recognised for the creative flair and commitment they demonstrated in their first Art project, based on the colour wheel. Meanwhile, our Year 8 students were celebrated for their fantastic Art projects inspired by artist Claes Oldenburg, producing imaginative larger-than-life 3D versions of everyday objects that showcased impressive creativity and technical skill.

During the breakfasts, students had the opportunity to discuss their artwork, ideas and creative processes with Mrs Ali, members of the Senior Leadership Team and their Year Teams, while enjoying fresh pastries and breakfast treats. These events provided a wonderful opportunity to recognise effort, originality and achievement in a relaxed and celebratory setting.









# Swinton Stars!

Swinton Stars is all about celebrating our pupils and the fantastic work they are proud of. Pupils were invited to nominate pieces of their own work where they felt they had gone above and beyond, showcasing effort, progress, and achievement. Teachers also nominated outstanding work from across their classes, making this a wonderful whole-school celebration of learning.

Miss Worth presented the Swinton Stars awards during Strive and Period 5, and it was fantastic to see so many pupils recognised for their dedication and pride in their work across a range of subjects.

Well done to all of our Swinton Stars, a thoroughly deserved achievement!

Keep an eye out for more opportunities to submit work for Swinton Stars in the near future.



# The Library



We're thrilled to share that, in less than half of the academic year, our students have nearly matched last year's total number of 768 books borrowed! It's an incredible achievement that shows just how much our library is being enjoyed and how much our students value their reading!

Our newly refurbished library provides an even more welcoming and inspiring space for students to explore, learn, and relax. With the launch of our new digital system, accessing books has never been easier, making it simple for students to find their next favorite read.

Beyond books, our library offers a wealth of extra-curricular activities, from crocheting and artistic projects to giving students the exciting opportunity to publish their own work for their peers to enjoy!

Our Library's success is in no small part down to the hard work and unwavering dedication of Mrs Hughes. Her efforts are making a real difference in the lives of our students and bringing the library to life like never before!





# Year 10 Develop Communication Skills

We were delighted to host two one-hour workshops with Greater Manchester Higher, working with 42 of our Year 10 students on style, tone, and register to support more effective communication across a range of real-life scenarios.

Each session concluded with a whole-class debate on whether the school day should be shorter. Both groups put forward dozens of compelling arguments for and against the motion, with every student actively taking part.

It was a fantastic and highly engaging morning, and our students should be proud of themselves! A huge thank you to Gaia from GMH for delivering such an enjoyable and productive experience!



## Year 11 February Half-Term Intervention Sessions

### Monday 16th February

Maths Foundation - Miss Baxter  
10am - 12pm

### Tuesday 17th February

Enterprise - Miss Armstrong  
10am - 2pm

### Wednesday 18th February

Enterprise - Miss Armstrong  
10am - 2pm

### Thursday 19th February

Computer Science - Miss Torkington  
10am - 12pm

### Friday 20th February

Art and Photography - Miss Anderson/Miss Tremble  
9am - 12pm

Revision is vital to exam success in Year 11. We are holding interventions over the February half-term to give our students the best possible chance in their GCSEs.

A huge thank you to all our staff who are giving up their free time for our students!

Attendance to any of these sessions will earn double Prom Points!

# Cycling Confidence in Years 7 & 8

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students have been absolutely brilliant this term taking part in their Bikeability Level 3 training!

Working alongside the experts from the Nationwide Cycling Academy, our students have been "levelling up" their cycling skills by completing level 3.

It's been fantastic to see their confidence grow as they prepare for more independent journeys. A huge well done to everyone involved for their focus and maturity on the road!



## English Literature Comes Alive at the Octagon Theatre

A group of our Year 10 and 11 students had the opportunity to visit the Bolton Octagon Theatre to watch their production of A Christmas Carol.

As part of developing their understanding of the text in an immersive and engaging way, students watched attentively throughout and even joined in during interactive moments of the performance!

The experience helped deepen their understanding of the story, themes and add depth to character emotions, supporting their learning as they prepare for their English Literature exams.





# SEND

Within Nurture this term our Year 7 pupils are developing key emotional wellbeing skills by learning how to manage anxiety and stress, build resilience and understand their emotions.

They worked in groups to identify coping mechanisms that work for them and are encouraged to work collaboratively, creating a safe and supportive environment where they can share their feelings openly, listen to others and express ideas freely.

This work reflects the commitment, care and dedication of our SEND team, whose hard work makes a meaningful difference to the wellbeing, confidence and progress of all our pupils. Their support is invaluable in ensuring every child feels understood, supported and able to thrive.





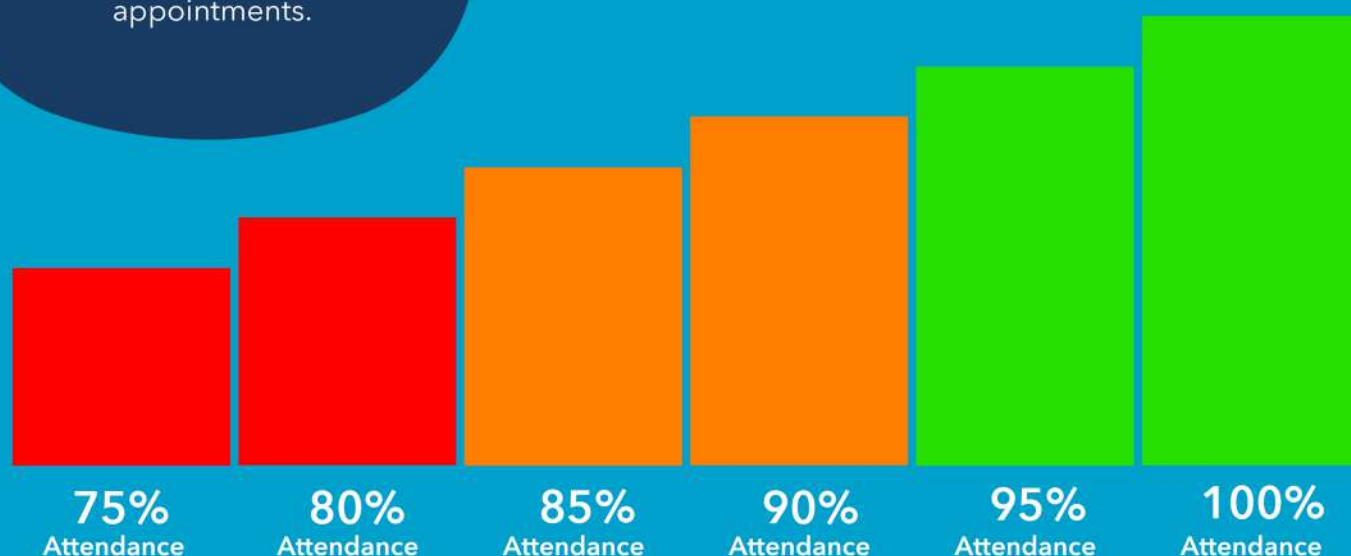
Co-op Academy  
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# Good Attendance Equals Good Results!

Students with less than 96% attendance  
will lose 80+ hours. It is vital  
to the success of learning that  
students have high attendance!

## 175 Non-School Days A Year

There are 175 non-school days  
during the year to spend on family  
time, visits, holidays, shopping,  
household jobs and other  
appointments.



### Serious Concern

**Serious Concern.**  
Serious impact on education.  
**Students leave with limited  
GCSE grades.**

### Worrying

**Poor Attendance.**  
Less chance of student success.  
Makes it harder to make progress.  
**Concerning!**

### Good

**Excellent Attendance.**  
Best chance of success,  
Gets you off to a flying start.  
**Well done!**

## Great attendance means being in school at least 97%

**Did you know?** A two week holiday in term time means that the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.5%



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In line with national guidance  
Attendance below 95% will  
follow procedures leading  
to a fine.



# Safeguarding

Dear Families,

We know that children are more likely to face online risks during holiday periods. Here are some links to help you keep your child safe online:

Our Trust broadband provider, LGfL, has some really useful parental guidance and top tips:

<https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

UK Safer Internet Centre provides tips, advice, guides and resources to help keep your child safe online

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Educate Against Hate provides practical advice and support on protecting children from extremism and radicalisation

<https://www.educateagainsthate.com/category/parents/>

Childnet provides advice for parents and carers to help support children and young people in their safe and responsible use of the internet.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

We wish all parents, carers, pupils and colleagues a happy and safe half-term.

## Your Safeguarding Team



**Mrs Coote**  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
(By IT Corridor)



**Miss Chadwick**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
(Safeguarding Office,  
by History Corridor)



**Miss Suleman**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead  
(Safeguarding Office,  
by History Corridor)

If you have a worry or an issue you can speak to **any** member of staff you feel comfortable speaking to, but our **Safeguarding Team** in school are listed above who are always available to speak to during the school day and term time.

# Your School Uniform



Co-op Academy  
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Be ready to learn with all the uniform you need for the new term!  
Here is what your child will need:

- Academy Blazer
- Academy Jumper
- Shirt, light blue, plain
- Academy Tie (clip-on)
- Shoes, plain black only

Students can choose between wearing a Skirt or Trousers:

Skirt (Must be worn with plain black tights, Denier 60+), Trutex navy blue, stitch down pleat

- Trousers, must not be skinny fit/tight fit.



## PE Kit

Our PE Kit is now fully Unisex, your child will need a range of the following items:

- School Branded Navy Shorts
- School Branded 1/4 Zip Long Sleeved Jersey
- School Branded Navy Leggings
- School Branded Navy Hoodie
- School Branded Navy Jogging Bottoms
- Navy or Black Knee Length Socks

All your school uniform needs are easily available at our uniform suppliers:

- Whittakers, 123-125 Chorley Rd, Swinton, Manchester M27 4A
- Debonairs (online only)  
<https://debonairschoolwearwythenshawe.co.uk>

## Everyday Equipment

- Black Pen, Green Pen, Pencil, Rubber, Pencil Case, Scientific Calculator and Ruler

- A Rucksack, able to accommodate PE Kit, A4 sized books and all other equipment



For our full list of uniform requirements please visit: <https://www.swinton.coopacademies.co.uk/parents/uniform>





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# Co-op Academy Swinton Community Pantry

We're excited to announce our partnership with MCKS, where we aim to provide support to the Swinton Community

## Opening Times

The Community Pantry will be open in JB's  
Tuesday 2:00pm - 4:00pm  
Wednesdays 7:30am - 10:00am  
**TERM TIME ONLY**

**Entry is via the leisure centre**



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