

The Calder Learning Trust

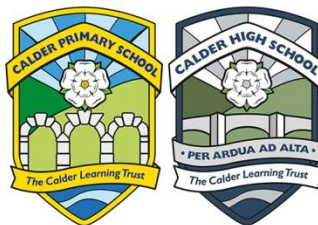
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Web: www.calderlearningtrust.com

Headteacher: Mr A Guise



15 December 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

We are almost at the end of the autumn term, and what a pleasure it has been to see a full return to many of the extra-curricular clubs, events and opportunities that pupils, students, staff and families enjoy so much. These have included: primary and secondary cross-country champions, our history trip to Poland, science club, choir, sports competitions and fixtures on our MUGA for both phases and of course our sell-out productions of The Angel Express Nativity and Matilda! We have also welcomed parents and families back into school for Open Evenings, Parents' Evenings, our Calder Edge PixL celebration, Primary Golden Book Assemblies, PTA meetings, Christmas Fairs and more.

We are therefore now in a position to be able to review our remaining measures from the pandemic and January 2023 will see a change to our secondary school day to reflect this, as set out below.

We are also reviewing our methods of communication with parents and carers and streamlining how you can contact us so that you are able to receive a response in a timely manner. We recognise that currently it can be unclear who best to contact with a query, and it is not always clear how long you will wait for a response. In addition, our pastoral staff are receiving more emails and phone calls than ever before and we want to support them with clear systems and guidelines to ensure they are able to work effectively.

Our Core Values

Our Calder Learning Trust core values are Care, Commitment and Courage. You will see these proudly displayed in our school entrance areas and we have been talking with our pupils and students about what these mean and how we can embed them across school and celebrate when they are used both in classrooms and also in the wider life of the school. Our ethos of Everybody Every Day continues to remain at the heart of all that we do.

School Day Structures from January 2023

The Secondary School Day from January will be:

- Students should be in school by 8.25am
- Form period is from 8.30am- 8.50am
- We will return to a single break and lunch time (with a variety of food options and venues around site, sittings to reduce congestion in the diner and a dedicated area for packed lunches).
- We will be reducing the one-way system where it is not needed, but are keeping it in some key areas to help the flow around the building.
- Period 5 will end at 3pm.
- Calder Primary will continue to be 8.45am to 3.15pm, with breakfast club from 7.45am.

We have made some changes to the secondary school day for a number of reasons:

- Form Time has returned to the beginning of the school day so that Form Tutors are the first point of contact for students in the morning and to give time to build a trusting relationship between students and tutors. This in turn leads to positive behaviours and outcomes for our students.

'Everybody, Everyday'



· A single secondary lunch time which will allow more opportunities for extra-curricular clubs, will ensure higher staff numbers on duty around school to promote the safety and welfare of students and free up some key spaces for students, both to be active and to socialise, including in wet weather.

Contacting School

From January 2023, we will be implementing new options when you phone school to ensure you are put through to the correct person or department.

This is to support parents and carers; ensuring that you are directed to the right person for your enquiry. It is also to support our staff wellbeing and ensure they are able to respond to all enquiries effectively.

To support this, phone calls and emails for any pastoral or safeguarding issues will be triaged by our Pastoral Admin team. They will be the first point of contact for secondary. You can contact them on pastoraladmin@calderlearningtrust.com or telephone 01422 883213 Option 2. For Calder Primary, please send all emails to primary@calderlearningtrust.com or telephone 01422 883213 Option 4.

Please also see below for a full list of telephone and email contact details

Please do not email communications to individual members of teaching or pastoral staff. Their email addresses will not receive these from January.

We will respond to any email or telephone messages within 48 hours. It may be sooner than this, but this allows us time to ensure we give you an appropriate and clear response.

Please do not come to site and ask to speak with a member of secondary staff without an appointment. We are happy to make arrangements for appointments once we have more details about the enquiry - please use the email and telephone details above to request this. This does not affect primary parents and teachers at the gates.

Unfortunately, over the past 12 months the number of abusive emails, phone calls and face to face contact has risen significantly and we have had to make a number of referrals to the police for persistent abuse of our staff. As you can appreciate, we want to ensure our staff work in a safe environment and enjoy working for The Calder Learning Trust. Abusive behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated and could result in police intervention or exclusion from our site.

Procedure for unwell pupils and students in school

Please can we remind parents that if your child feels unwell in school, they should either seek medical attention from the school nurse or, if unavailable, their Form Tutor or Head of Year. We will then contact home and discuss the next steps as appropriate.

Pupils and students should not use mobile phones to contact parents and ask them to collect them, as this does not follow safeguarding or medical guidance for schools.

Class Charts

This is the main way Calder High communicates with reporting rewards and sanctions. As we are able to see when parents have accessed Class Charts, we know that there are currently 236 parents who are not accessing it. This means that they are missing out on information and communications about your child including key notices, rewards and homework. If you are unsure about how to access Class Charts, please visit their website for a step-by-step guide.

If you are thinking of contacting school regarding a reward, sanction or homework, please first check Class Charts as here you will be able to see what was issued, by who and why and this should answer your query.

WhatsApp Groups

Behaviour

Our school values of Care, Commitment and Courage form our behaviour systems across both Calder Primary and Calder High. This academic year we have refined these, introducing a focus on positive rewards including stars of the week and golden tickets. We want to celebrate kindness, friendships and relationships as we pride ourselves on our family ethos at The Calder Learning Trust where everybody knows each other and supports each other every day.

Alongside this we are working hard to ensure all our students follow our school rules and support our ethos of 'Everybody, Every day'. Students who do not follow our rules and values will receive sanctions, which could result in a detention or exclusion. Where students need more support with this, interventions are put in place to support them in building positive behaviours.

We ask that all parents and carers support the rules, values and ethos of our school, and talk to their children about rewards and sanctions received. We also have a range of support materials on our Calder Cares page of the Calder High website should you need more support with behaviour or mental health at home. If you need any additional help, please get in touch and we can signpost or support with referrals to additional services, such as Open Minds Calderdale.

We would like to take this opportunity to also say thank you for the support of school this term. In particular, when parents have contacted school or commented on social media with positive feedback or thanks for staff, for example after residential trips or productions. It really does mean a great deal to staff and makes all their organising and planning worth it!

We hope everyone enjoys a well-deserved two-week break, and we look forward to working together on the new changes above from January.

Yours sincerely,



A.Taylor K.Lambert

Head of Calder High Head of Calder Primary

Key Contact Information:

School Telephone number: 01422 883213

Option	Number
Reporting a secondary absence	Key 1
Pastoral and Safeguarding enquires	Key 5
School IT/Systems enquires eg passwords	Key 7
Calder Primary – all enquiries	Key 4
Finance/Parent Pay enquiries	Key 6
Switchboard	Key 0/Hold

School Email Addresses

Pastoral/Safeguarding/Welfare enquiries	Pastoraladmin@calderlearningtrust.com
General emails or feedback	Parentenquiry@calderlearningtrust.com
Calder Primary	Primary@calderlearningtrust.com
IT Helpdesk	Ithelpdesk@calderlearningtrust.com