

The Calder Learning Trust

Brier Hey Lane, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire HX7 5QN

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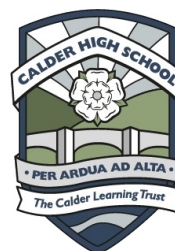
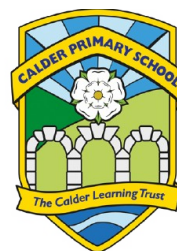
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Head of The Calder Learning Trust - Mr A Guise

Head of Calder Primary School - Mrs K Lambert

Head of Calder High School - Mr A Taylor



18 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

Year 9: A Fantastic Start to the Term

I hope this letter finds you and your family well. As Headteacher at Calder High School, I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all our Year 9 Students, Parents and Carers.

We delayed this communication slightly to give our students time to settle into the new term, and I'm delighted to share what a fantastic start Year 9 has made.

Changes to the Pastoral Team

Some families may not be aware that Mrs Binks is now supporting our Year 7 students. Mr Halstead is now Head of Year 9. He is a strong, hard-working member of our pastoral team, and is fully committed to ensuring the best for your child.

Core Values in Action

Year 9 pupils have consistently embodied our core values of **Care, Commitment, and Courage** – in lessons, around the school, and during form time. Their enthusiasm, behaviour and positive attitude have been truly impressive.

Attendance and Punctuality

- **Attendance:** Year 9 attendance is currently over 93%. While this is a good start, we want to see it increase—aiming for over 98%. High attendance is proven to have a strong impact on academic achievement, as we saw in this year's GCSE results (the best Calder High has had in years).
- **Punctuality:** Our 'Every Minute Counts' campaign is going well. It's great to see Year 9 students arriving before the bell and attending all lessons on time.

How You Can Help

- **Support punctuality:** We know roadworks on Burnley Road can appear without warning, which may impact your journey. Please encourage your child to leave home in plenty of time to ensure they arrive punctually.
- **Stay engaged:** Every minute in school really does count. Your encouragement makes all the difference.

This year marks an important milestone for your child at The Calder Learning Trust. As they prepare to make their option choices in February 2026, we are committed to providing a comprehensive programme of support to help them make informed decisions about their future.

What's Involved?

Over the coming months, your child will benefit from:

- **Taster Lessons:** Opportunities to experience lessons in a variety of subjects before making their choices.
- **Assemblies:** Information sessions outlining the options process and what each subject involves.
- **Parents' Evening:** A chance to discuss your child's progress and ask questions about subject suitability.
- **Options Evening:** Meet subject teachers, explore different options, and access additional guidance.
- **Careers Support:** Expert advice from C&K Careers, including one-to-one sessions and tailored resources.
- **Early Choices:** Your child has already started making individual choices in Technology and Expressive Arts, helping them identify their interests and strengths.

New School Rebuilding Programme

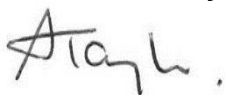
We are excited to announce that representatives from the Department for Education will visit Calder in mid-October as part of our New School Rebuilding Programme. This is a significant step forward for our community, and I will keep you fully updated as the project progresses.

Next Steps and How to Stay Involved

- Encourage your child to maintain excellent attendance and punctuality—aim for over 98%
- Contact us if you have any concerns or require support with attendance or punctuality
- Look out for further updates on the rebuilding programme and other school initiatives
- If you have any questions or would like to discuss your child's progress, please contact us via the school office

Thank you once again for your support. Let's continue working together to make this a fantastic year for Year 9!

Yours sincerely



Mr A Taylor
Head of Calder High School
part of The Calder Learning Trust



Everybody, Everyday

