The Calder Learning Trust

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

Telephone: 01422 883213

Enquiries: parentenquiry@calderlearningtrust.com

Website: calderlearningtrust.com

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

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Dear Parent/Carers

Year 10: 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 10 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 10 has made.

Core Values in Action

Year 10 pupils have consistently embodied our core values of **Care, Commitment, and Courage** – in lessons, around the school, and during form time. Mr Hussain, the Year 10 team and I, have noticed their enthusiasm, behaviour and positive attitude have been truly impressive.

Successful Start to GCSEs - Encouragement for the Journey Ahead

I am delighted to let you know that our Year 10 students have made a fantastic start to their GCSE courses. It's remarkable to see how grown up they have become, embracing the responsibilities and opportunities that Key Stage 4 brings. The next two years will pass quickly, and before we know it, the 2027 exams will be upon us.

How You Can Support Your Child

To ensure your child is fully prepared for their GCSEs, please encourage them to:

- **Engage with all aspects of their GCSE courses** This means not only working hard in lessons, but also taking part in enrichment activities, revision sessions, and using the resources provided.
- Ask for help when needed Remind your child that it is perfectly normal to need support. Encourage them to speak to their teachers or tutors if they are unsure about any topics.
- **Stay organised** Help them to use a planner or timetable, so they can manage homework, revision, and extra-curricular activities effectively.
- **Maintain a healthy balance** Good sleep, nutrition, and downtime are just as important as studying

Attendance and Punctuality

- **Attendance:** Year 10 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 10 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.

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 10!

Yours sincerely

Mr A Taylor

Head of Calder High School part of The Calder Learning Trust



