

Thursday, 20th August 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome Back to Year 8

I hope you have all had a great summer and have been able to enjoy time together. I am really looking forward to welcoming your child back on **Thursday 3rd September at 8.40am**.

A reminder that Form Tutors are always the first point of contact, and their email addresses can be found below. We will be holding a **"Year 8 Meet the Tutor Event"** on **Thursday 3rd September between 3:15pm and 4:15 pm** for you to be able to discuss your child's progress, behaviour and attendance with them. If you are unable to attend, the tutor will contact you in the first half term to check in.

Year 8 Team - Contact Details:

8GOP	Mr G Opare	gabrielopare@graceacademy.org.uk
8ICH	Mr I Chiradza	isaacchiradza@graceacademy.org.uk
8LRO	Mrs G Kang (Mon-Wed) & Miss E Harvey (Thur-Fri)	gagandeepkang@graceacademy.org.uk ellieharvey@graceacademy.org.uk
8LST	Mrs L Paterson	libbystimpson@graceacademy.org.uk
8NWI	Mrs N Wilson (Mon-Thur) & Mr T Wilkinson (Fri)	natalyakotrzuba@graceacademy.org.uk traviswilkinson@graceacademy.org.uk
8RHE	Mrs R Simak	ritasimak@graceacademy.org.uk
8MRO	Mr M Roberts	martinsroberts@graceacademy.org.uk
8ROW	Mrs R Owino	renataowino@graceacademy.org.uk

I thought I would take this opportunity to share with you the wider pastoral team who will be working with your child this year, ensuring positive student wellbeing and supporting all students to demonstrate "The Grace Way".

- Mrs E Ridley - Head of Year - eleonorridley@graceacademy.org.uk
- Mr M Williams - Assistant Head of Key Stage - marcwilliams@graceacademy.org.uk
- Mrs S Dalton - Assistant Principal responsible for Key Stage 3 Student Outcomes: sarahdalton@graceacademy.org.uk



Principal:
Mrs E Wheller

Grace Academy is part of Tove Learning Trust, a multi-academy trust whose Company Registration Number is 07525820
Registered Office Address: c/o Sponne School, Brackley Road, Towcester, Northants NN12 6DJ



- Mrs K Clayton - Year 8 ALT link: kayclayton@graceacademy.org.uk
- Mrs Z Chen - Year 8 Head of Faculty link - zhchen@graceacademy.org.uk
- Miss L Smith- Vice Principal responsible for Student Care: lisasmith@graceacademy.org.uk

Timings of the School Day:

8:00-8:40	Family Breakfast and Homework support (optional)
8:40-8:45	Arrive for line ups
8:45-9:00	Line ups and AM form time
9:00-10:00	P1
10:00-11:00	P2
11:00-11:20	Break Time
11:20-12.20	P3
12:20-13.20	P4
13.20-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:55	P5
14:55-15:15	PM form time
15:15-16:00	Homework and After School clubs (optional)

Key Dates:

			<u>Year 8 Events</u>
Term 1	Last day of term	Thursday 22 nd October	♦ Meet the Tutor Event –Thursday 3rd September (3.15pm-4.15pm) ♦ Year 6 Open Evening - Wednesday 9th September ♦ Sixth Form Open Evening - Wednesday 21st October
	School closed to students	Friday 23 rd October	
	Half Term holiday	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October	
Term 2	Students return to school	Monday 2 nd November	♦ AP1 assessments – throughout November ♦ Year 8 Parents’ Evening - 12th November ♦ Christmas Fayre - Friday 11th December
	School closed to students	Friday 4 th December	
	Last day of term	Friday 18 th December	
	Christmas holiday	Monday 21 st December – Monday 4 th January	
Term 3	School closed to students	Monday 4 th January	

	Students return to school	Tuesday 5 th January	♦ AP2 assessments – throughout February
	Last day of term	Friday 12 th February	
	Half term holiday	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February	
Term 4	Students return to school	Monday 22 nd February	♦ AP2 assessments – continue throughout February/March
	Last day of term	Thursday 25 th March	
	Easter holiday	Friday 26 ^h March – Friday 9 th April	
Term 5	Students return to school	Monday 12 th April	
	School closed to students	Monday 3 rd May	
	Last day of term	Friday 28 th May	
	Half term holiday	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June	
Term 6	Students return to school	Monday 7 th June	♦ AP3 assessments – throughout June
	School closed to students	Monday 28 th June	♦ Enrichment Days – 19 th July to 21 st July
	Last day of term	Wednesday 21 st July	
	Summer holidays begin	Thursday 22 nd July	

Equipment

Here at Grace, we have high expectations and endeavour to ensure all students demonstrate and embody "The Grace Way". The Academy Charter, which embodies all of these expectations in and around school, is located in the student planners and should be signed by students and parents. Student Planners will be given to every student on Wednesday 3rd September and they are expected to bring this to school every day.

Uniform

Students need to ensure they are wearing the correct uniform. If you have any uniform concerns, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. We have a stock of uniform that can be borrowed from our Ethos Team. A reminder that we expect natural hair colours/braids, no jewellery (except one stud in each ear and a mechanical watch), no shaved eyebrows/heads, no false eyelashes/nails and students should wear the Grace Academy uniform (as per our Uniform Policy).

Mobile Phones

A reminder that phones, and any other electronic devices, must be handed in when students arrive at school, and will be locked away securely until the end of the school day. If students are found to be in possession of a device, this will be confiscated for 24 hours and additional sanctions may be applied.

Kind regards,



Mrs E Ridley
Head of Year 8