

Year 8 Information Evening

Thursday 15th January



Attendance Matters

Academic Success

- Pupils who attend school regularly perform significantly better in their GCSEs.
- Missing just 1 day between Year 7-11 can lead to a 0.68% drop in GCSE scores.
- 13 days of absence can result in a whole grade lower at GCSE.
- Attendance builds good learning habits, resilience and confidence.



Persistently absent pupils could earn £10,000 less at the age of 28 compared to pupils with near-perfect attendance.

How can you support your child?

- Set a positive routine- having a consistent bedtime and morning routine makes school attendance easier.
- Plan appointments carefully- whenever possible, schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours.
- Assess illness carefully- pupils with minor colds or headaches shouldn't need a day off. If in doubt, send them in and we will contact you if they need to go home.
- Talk to us- let us support you if you or your child is experiencing any difficulties or concerns around attending school. We're here to help.
- Lead by example- when pupils see and hear that school attendance is valued at home, they are more likely to take it seriously themselves.

Attendance Process

- We will visit the home on either day 3 or day 5 of the absence
- Pupils off school for 4 days or more will have a return to school meeting
- We will not approve holidays in term time

Report Absence

- Edulink is the preferred option for reporting absence
- Telephone

Please do not email any school account

Punctuality and Lates

- 4 lates or more in a week
- Pupils receive 10 minute for every late accumulated.
- Friday night detention- this is centralised and cannot be change

Communication and Systems

How will you be informed?

We will inform you via Edulink by Thursday.

Home Learning

Sparx Maths

Sparx Maths is an online learning platform used by pupils Year 7 - 10.

Pupils are set weekly home learning for Maths which will be primarily issued via Sparx Maths. They have 1 week to complete the home learning assignment, which should take approximately 30 minutes per week.

Parents do not have a Sparx account, but you will:

- Receive emails from Sparx to advise the status of your child's home learning, e.g. 70% outstanding, completed, not completed. You will receive one part way through the week and the other at the end of the week.

Pupils log in to Sparx Maths using their school Microsoft account. If your child is having any issues, they should speak to their Maths teacher who will be able to help them.

Maths will also be running 2 lunchtime drop-in sessions per week in a computer room (days of the week to be confirmed).

Microsoft Teams

Pupils are set home Learning via Microsoft Teams.

They will be shown how to view their home learning in school and if they have any questions, they should speak to their Form Tutor who will be able to help them.

Seneca

Seneca is an optional tool for staff to use to set revision-based home learning. Pupils can log in using their Microsoft account to access resources.

This is more commonly used by Science and French in KS3. In KS4 and beyond, it is used in other subjects such as English and Media Studies.

Focus on Sound

Pupils in KS3 use this for Music home learning. They log in using their Microsoft account.

Seneca (Parents/Carers)

You can create a Seneca account and connect it to your child's account after logging in for the first time to monitor their progress. **However, this is optional unless recommended by their class teacher and you will see ALL assigned home learning via Haldor.**

Haldor home learning (Parents/Carers)

Haldor home learning allows you to view all home learning tasks which have been set for your child. This includes home learning set via Sparx, Seneca and Focus on Sound.

The first time you use Haldor home learning you have to create a password for your Haldor account.

1. Go to <https://parent.haldoredu.com> and log in using the email you have registered with school
2. Go to the reset password page <https://auth.haldor.se/account/ForgotPassword>
3. Enter your email and click "Submit".
4. You will receive an email with a link where you can create a personal password. If you haven't received the email, please check the junk mail folder.
5. When you have chosen a password, go to <https://parent.haldoredu.com/> and log in using your email and new password.

Parents/Carers, Scan Here!



Seneca

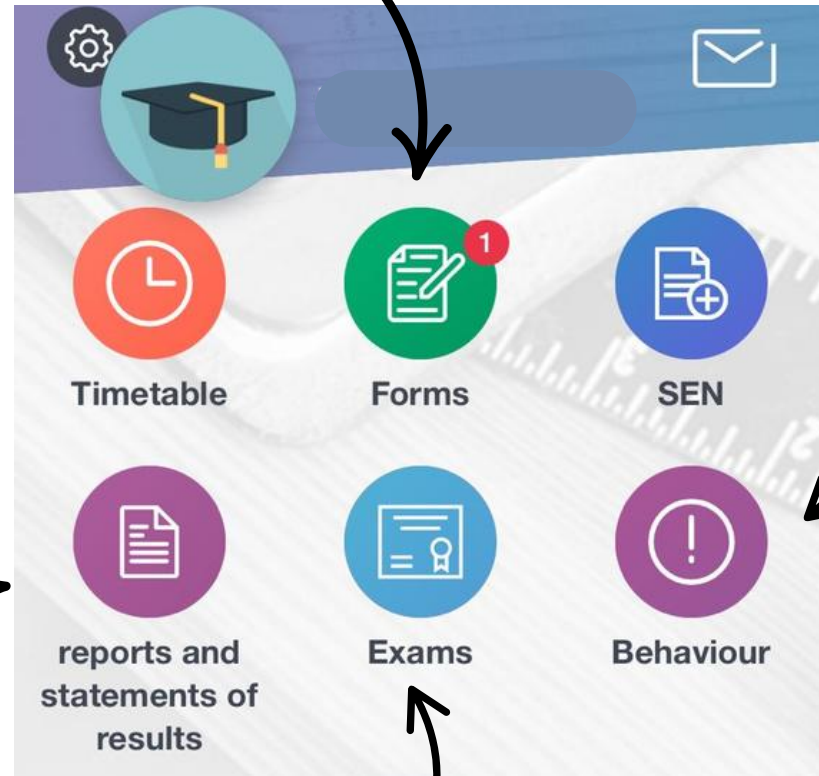


Haldor

Edulink One

Parents can log into Edulink using their email address (held by school) or the username issued via Edulink.

You will receive a notification when a form is ready to complete - this will always be accompanied by an email with further information



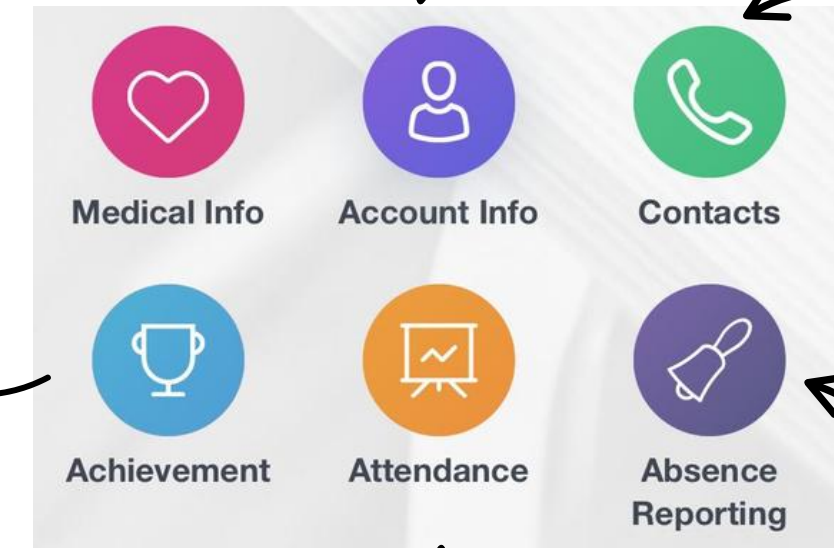
Status and need as logged by school if applicable

This is where any 'negatives' are logged, for example due to missed home learning, poor behaviour etc

We will let you know when reports are available to view in this area

Ignore for now! This will be used later in their school career

This is where 'positives' are logged:
Exceptional Achievement
Extra-Curricular
Outstanding Effort
Supportive Role Model
Sustained Improvement



A summary of your child's details

A summary of your details

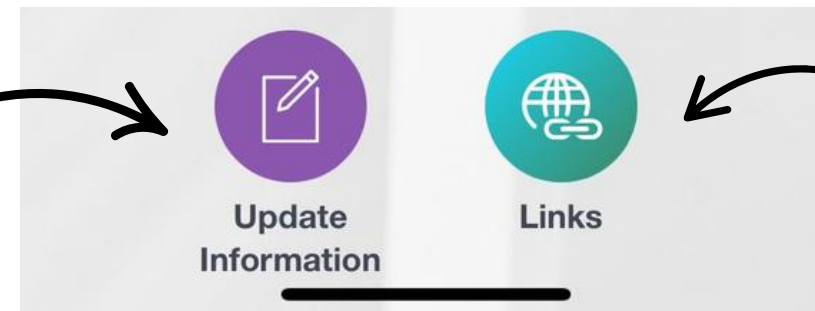
See details of your child's school attendance.

- Punctuality - only visible same day
- Attendance to lessons per subject, plus statutory attendance information

Report a current or future absence for your child. You can add an attachment, e.g. a hospital letter.

Issues with Edulink?
Please email
y8pastoral
@blue-coat.org

Click here to update your information. You can also update your child's information by clicking on their name instead



Links to WisePay and Haldor home learning

Parents/Carers, Scan Here!



Keys to success – Hard Work



Y11 Average ATL	APS	P8	ENGLISH P8	MATHS P8
Ambitious	7.7	1.94	1.98	1.22
Active	5.9	0.97	0.82	0.69
Passive	4.5	0.13	0.26	0.18
Reluctant	3.0	-1.40	-1.55	-1.07

Blue Coat Rewards

Our rewards system is built to recognise positive behaviour, personal growth, effort and achievement. We celebrate during assemblies, by making positive calls home and on our display boards around school.

We strive to acknowledge those who consistently make the right choice, live our school values and strengthen our school community to ensure that we are **everything we can be and everything that we are meant to be.**



We reward in many ways, including:

Positives

When? Daily

What? Positive achievements recorded by teachers to acknowledge exceptional behaviour and effort. This is visible to parents/carers.

How to achieve: Be a supportive role model, show outstanding effort and ongoing personal improvement, take part in extra-curricular activities, kindness.



Standards Award

When? Quarterly

What? Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards presented at your Year Celebration Assemblies with a chance to win weekly lunch queue jump passes.

How to achieve: This is an award for pupils who do the right thing in all areas:

- No negative behaviour points
- Positive achievement points
- Strong attendance
- Punctual to lessons and registration
- Positive attitude to learning



Subject Stars

When? Half Termly

What? A letter will be delivered by your form tutor to congratulate you on being nominated by your subject teacher and your name displayed in the department.

How to achieve: Complete work to a high quality, attend extra-curricular clubs, contribute in the classroom and show resilience.



Headteacher's Award

When? Half Termly

What? Recognition from Mr Higgins for going above and beyond.

How to achieve: Be ambitious! Strive to go above and beyond; e.g. by offering support, being kind to others, getting involved in school events, showing sustained improvement and more.



Speech Night

When? Annually

What? An awards evening to formally recognise academic excellence, creativity, talent, dedication and effort.

How to achieve: Uphold standards, be an active learner, focus on your progress, contribute to the community, participate in school events.



Continuing Our Legacy of Excellence

Life Beyond the Gates



“Everything you can be and are meant to be”

- Active Learner
- Meets standards and expectations
- Active member of the school community
- Takes opportunities when they come

- Choices
- Friends and family
- Neighbour & Citizen
- Lifelong learner



Futures



AM Curriculum
(pathways)

NHS assembly

Subject specific pathways

Access to local and
national resources

Employer Encounters



Inter House & Extra
Curricular

Battlefields/Non-
Battlefields

Junior Leadership Team

Outstanding Community
Citizen Award

Year 7 Leadership Award

[GM Sector Insights Pack - Spring 2025](#)

Information for Parents



The Blue Coat School

In This Section

Careers

Careers

**Futures Event
2025**



What is labour market information?

It is information relating to career occupations and industries, such as job numbers and salaries. It can also include a range of more specific details, such as educational levels for occupations, workforce demographics and employment patterns locally and/or nationally.

Why is labour market information important in careers education?

High quality, reliable and robust labour market information is vital to offering effective career guidance as it helps:

- navigate complex labour markets
- identify a pathway to goals and ambitions
- inform career decision making
- our understanding of a changing labour market

Why is it useful for students/staff/parents and carers to engage with local labour market information?

It is useful to find the answers to questions such as:

- How many jobs are there? How many in my area? What are the past trends? What are likely future trends?
- How much do people get paid for this job? How much is the starting average? How much in my area?
- What level of qualification do people have in these jobs and what am I likely to need?
- How many vacancies are there for this job? What proportion of people in this occupation are currently out of work?

 Overview of Greater Manchester labour market information

Download (pdf)

Useful Links for Careers Education

For any enquiries regarding careers education, information, advice or guidance, please contact our Careers Leader Mr Kelly by email at secretary@blue-coat.org

<https://gmacs.co.uk/> - careers exploration through Greater Manchester's Apprenticeship and Careers Service

nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk - this is the Government's hub for careers advice for people of all ages where you can find help with drafting letters, CVs, exploring your skills or seeking careers advice

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships> - the National Apprenticeship Service website provides general advice and information about apprenticeships. Also advertises current vacancies

www.icould.com - aims to help you to make the most of your potential by showing how others have used theirs, take the 'Buzz' personality profile quiz

www.startprofile.com - investigate careers, watch videos and get great advice, find out about employers and work experience opportunities in your area

www.careersbox.co.uk - video based job profile information and skills explorer tool

GM Workforce Overview

Industry (SIC)	Approx. Number of Jobs	Proportion (%) of jobs
A: Agriculture & fishing	2,300	0.2%
B,D,E: Energy & water	13,000	1.0%
C: Manufacturing	88,600	6.6%
F: Construction	81,500	6.0%
G-I: Wholesale, retail, hotels & restaurants	211,500	15.7%
H-J: Transport, Digital & Communication	138,900	10.3%
K-N: Banking, finance & insurance etc.	251,700	18.7%
O-Q: Public admin, education & health	475,800	35.3%
R-U: Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	78,700	5.8%
Total	1,349,600	100.0%

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS, Jun 2025

Further detail: [GMCA Labour Market and Skills Dashboard](#)



The Blue Coat | Mrs B Poppleton
Year 8 Director of Learning



Faith, Vision, Nurture

Year 8 – The year of exploring opportunities



Faith, Vision, Nurture

Year 8 Identity

- The transition from Year 7 to Year 8.
- New expectations.
- Setting a good example to Year 7.
- Getting involved in all things in Blue Coat.
- Becoming well rounded aspirational individuals.
- Making progress and all subjects.
- Getting involved in as much as possible.
- To shape own and individual identity.

Faith, Vision, Nurture

Year 8 Expectations

- High standards and expectations in all we do.
- A2L data is important, establishing and cementing good habits.
- Being a bigger part of the community.
- Rewards for all.
- Celebrations assemblies at the end of half term.

Faith, Vision, Nurture

Year 8 – How?

Year 8 Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Multiple events such as:



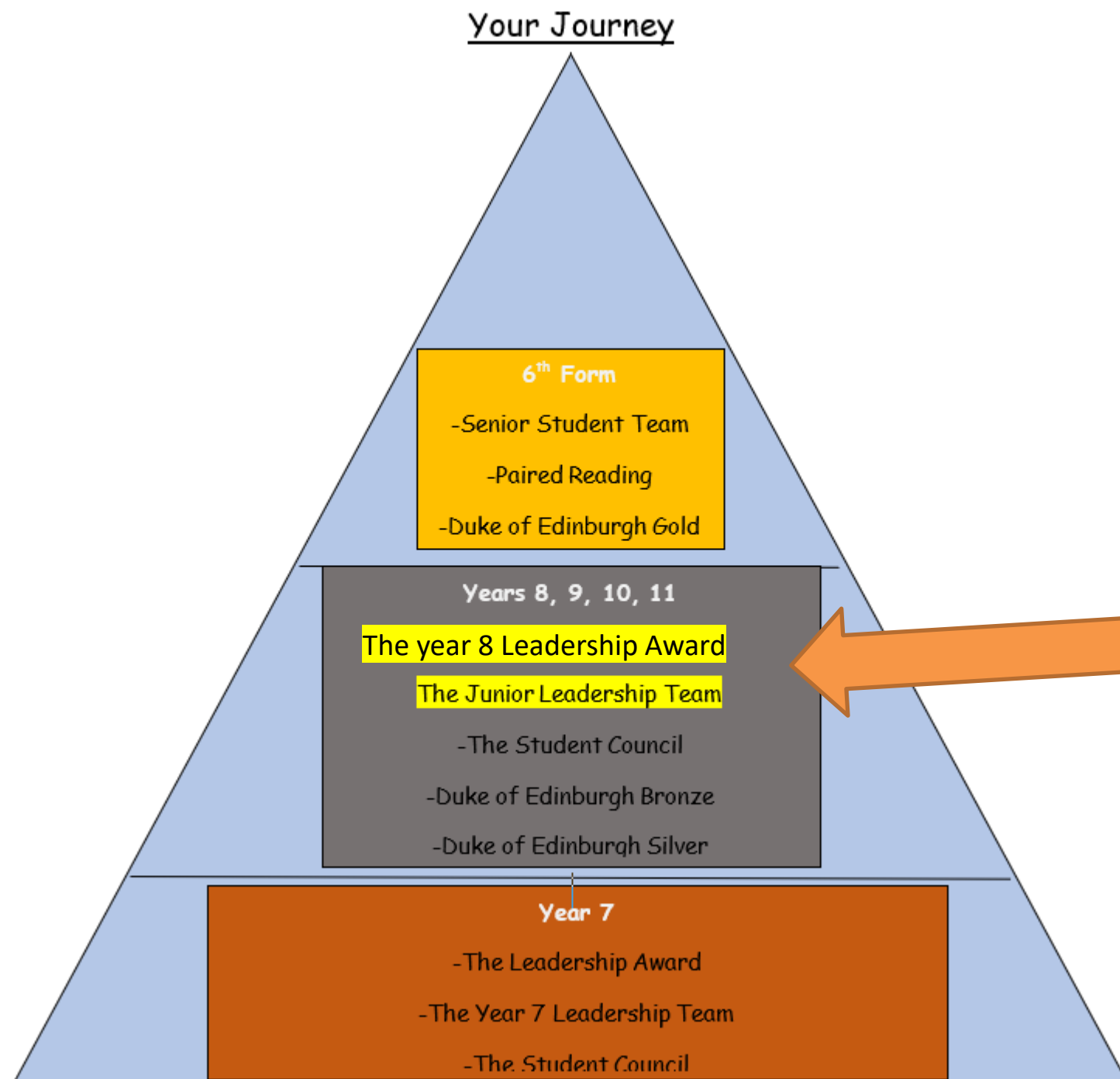
Extra-Curricular
TIMETABLE- TERM 2

<p>Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS5 Maths Drop in/Support-BC17 Art Homework Club- LE23 Jazz Orchestra- Band Room Jazz Orchestra- Band Room After School Computer Science Revision- BC16 Indoor Football- SPH Food Club - Q Mondays from 1.10- LE06 Engineering Club P Monday LETS (HT4) 	<p>Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Homework Club- LE23 Brass Band- Band Room Keyboard Club- HS01/02 Brass Band- Band Room After School Puzzle Club- BC07 Coding Club- BC16 KS5 Maths Drop in/Support-BC17 KS3 Badminton- SPH Yr9 Netball- SPH After School Booklet and culture club - HE21 UKMT Prep Club - BC17 Poetry Club for the upcoming Poetry by Heart Competition - MM02 Computer Science - Y11 GCSE Support- BC16
<p>Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS3/4 Maths drop in Support- BC16 Robotics -LE04 P WEDS Art Homework Club- LE23 KS4/5 Music Homework Club- HS02 Guitar Club- HS01 String Group- HS02 GCSE PE Revision- HS11 Volley Ball- SPH Netball Yr10/11/Sixth form- SPH After School Robotics- LE04 P WED 	<p>Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS3/4 Maths Drop in/Support- BC16 STEM Club -LE03 P Thurs Art Homework Club- LE23 Drama Club- HS03 KS3 Music Homework Drop in- HS01 Senior Choir- HS02 After School Q Wednesday GCSE Table Tennis- GYM KS3 Boys Rugby- SPH YR 7 Netball After School STEM Club- LE03 P WEEK Computer Science - Y11 GCSE Support- BC16
<p>Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art Homework Club- LE23 All Aboard Choir- HS02 WINDS- HS01 Q Friday GCSE Handball- SPH Trampolining- SPH Wildlife Club-PS21 Backgammon Club- BC12 	<p>Special Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Musical- February 11/12th Artful Maths (Top floor BC) Mon 12th Jan, Mon 19th Jan, Mon 26th Jan Law and Criminology super-curricular certificate Science week - Monday 5th March - Friday 19th March Swimming Gala World book Day Careers week UKMT Challenges (w/ 26th JAN), MEM Evenings (10th FEB) Poetry By Heart Competition Holi (Hinduism) celebration RS- Wed 4 Mar Vaisakhi (Sikhism) celebration - Card/kites colouring- RS Tue 4 Apr



Faith, Vision, Nurture

Year 8 Leadership Award



Looking to encompass all extra-curricular opportunities attended to promote an understanding of our core values.

To also highlight and celebrate what students are doing.

Year 8

The Battlefields of the First World War

2025



What do we do?

We visit some fantastic sites, such as:

- The town of Ypres including the many chocolate shops
- Explore preserved trench systems from the First World War
- Visit the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the world
- Spend a day sight seeing, shopping and canal cruising in Bruges
- Spend a day at a theme park
- Take part in the Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate

Deadline for payment = 30th January

