



13th September 2024

Dear parents and carers,

The weather is changing, autumn is coming, and our school is now full steam ahead into the new academic year.

Students have returned with such a positive vibe and attitude. We are delighted to be awarding such an impressive amount of positive Class Chart points already and students should be very proud. A great start! If you don't have access to Class Charts for your child, please get in contact with your Learning Manager, as important information is shared on this platform.

Thank you for your continued support in sending your child in every day on time and in uniform.

Thank you to parents who have emailed in, thanking staff for their time and efforts for the school trips that have happened over the summer holidays. It is always great to hear that students and families alike have enjoyed these well thought out trips as they are "important developmental experiences" as one parent emailed. We could not agree more.

During our first week, our catering team were delighted to have served three days of free school meals to our new Year 7 students. The meals went down very well and were enjoyed by all. Our catering team are working hard to produce healthy, delicious school meals so give them a try!

Over the next few days, on Class Charts, you will be receiving a letter update regarding the potential academisation of Todmorden High School. On Wednesday 2nd October at 4:30-5:30pm, we will be

holding a Parent Consultation Evening in the Hall, to discuss this and answer any questions that you may have. If you wish to attend this, please complete the form on the letter.

On Thursday 26th September, it is our Open Evening from 5-7pm. Please spread the word in the community, far and wide, as we will have places available in 2026 and 2027. If you haven't already seen our social media posts, please take a look and share on your social media please.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/roehk8z6mC8D3Tdo/>

This Saturday brings the 150th Todmorden Town Hall celebrations, including an awards ceremony for the winners of the logo competition. Good luck to our students who are attending to see if they have won!

I have sent many congratulatory messages this week to our staff in school. Some of them are bringing in results way above the national average, and I wanted to thank them for their fantastic contribution towards the school and the lives of our young people.

As always, if you have any other concerns or if you wish to speak with a member of staff please get in touch with us via the website, by emailing reception at admin@todhigh.co.uk

Yours sincerely,

Gill Shirt

Headteacher

Up and Coming Dates



16.9.24 - Manchester Photography Trip

19.9.24 - Year 7 Form Tutor Evening @ 4:30-7pm.

20.9.24 - Salford Quays Field Trip

26.9.24 - Open Evening: 5-7pm

1.10.24 - ARCH day 1

9.10.24 - Headteacher's Online Parent Forum @ 4-5pm *

10.10.24 - Year 7 Parent Forum @ 3:15 - 3:45pm

17.10.24 - SEND Forum with Mrs Kendall and Miss Cooper @ 4-5pm*

23.10.24 - Data Forum with Miss Vose @ 4-5pm *

19.11.24 Year 7-11 Nasal Flu immunisations

* These are online events where you can speak to our staff on TEAMS, or on a one to one basis.

Details of how to join / make an appointment for each forum will be released closer to the dates.

Please keep an eye out on our social media pages for lots of new and interesting articles!

Parent Consultation regarding academisation

The governing body, the senior leadership team (SLT) and myself have been undertaking research into multi-academy trusts (MATs). You may remember my letters last year about joining Pennine Alliance Learning Trust (which governors finally decided not to join).

After much deliberation the governors have passed a resolution to join SHARE MAT, a multi academy trust based in Kirklees. SHARE MAT has a proven record of raising attainment and narrowing the gap between disadvantaged children and those who are not disadvantaged. SHARE MAT has been working with SLT and myself for a few months. We know that joining a family of schools that can offer support, resources and a proven record of success will be a positive move for Todmorden High School.

Currently SHARE MAT comprises of the secondaries Shelley College, Royds Hall Academy, Thornhill Community Academy and Whitcliffe Mount Academy. The Trust also leads four primary schools.

Joining SHARE MAT will allow Todmorden High School to maintain its own identity: the ARCH values will stay intact. We will be an equal partner in the Trust and enjoy the same rights and benefits of all the other academies. The MAT will allow us to work together at a high level to share the best practice and make the most efficient use of resources.

SHARE MAT is a good match for Todmorden, with the same values and care for students and staff. There will be very few noticeable changes for the students and staff after conversion, however we will benefit from being a partner in a bigger organisation, this will give staff opportunities to share best practice with successful and like-minded colleagues and access to specialist support services covering everything from finance and premises to staff training and development. This will further benefit the children at Todmorden High School.

We are now at the stage where we would like to consult with the staff, parents, carers, and other stakeholders. The consultation period will run from 9th September 2024 to 14th October 2024. We do appreciate that some members of our community may be apprehensive about Todmorden High School joining a Multi Academy Trust. So we can open up a dialogue, the first consultation session will be on Wednesday 2nd October from 4.30 – 5.30 pm where John McNally, (CEO of SHARE MAT), our governors and members of the Senior Leadership Team will be available for a presentation and a Q&A. All parents, carers, stakeholders and community members are welcome.

Please come along to the school hall and ask whatever you like concerning Todmorden High School joining the MAT. If you would like to come to the question and answer session in school from 4.30-5.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd October, please complete this [form](#) or follow the QR code below.

If you are unable to access this technology, please email v.jones@todhigh.co.uk

Yours faithfully,

Gill Shirt

Headteacher

Drama Lessons / Footwear

During your child's drama lessons this year there will be the expectation for shoes to be removed at the beginning of every lesson. This is to keep the drama studio cleaner. They will also be sitting on the floor in every lesson as part of the new classroom routines. Students may want to bring in an additional pair of socks to put on when they have their drama lessons. Students who wear skirts are also welcome to bring a pair of shorts / leggings to pull on at the start of the lesson. Thank you for your support.

Important information regarding attendance

Over the summer the Government have released some advice on attendance. Please use the link below to see information regarding when to send your child to school. If you have any questions about attendance, please contact our Learning Manager for attendance on n.clark-hutchinson@todhigh.co.uk

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2022/09/02/back-to-school-week-everything-you-need-to-know-about-school-attendance/>

Nasal Flu vaccinations

Nasal Flu vaccinations are taking place 19/11/2024 for the whole School. There is a link in the letter attached to complete whether providing consent or not via an online form. If you have multiple children, you will need to complete a form for each child. Please complete and submit the form ASAP.

2024 - 2025 Term Dates

School term dates 2024-2025

Date	Event
Monday 2nd September 2024	CPD Day 1 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	CPD Day 2 (school closed to students)
Wednesday 4th September 2024	School opens for Autumn term
Friday 25th October 2024	School closes for Autumn half-term
Monday 4th November 2024	School re-opens after Autumn half-term
Friday 20th December 2024	School closes for the end of Autumn term
Monday 6th January 2025	CPD Day 3 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 7th January 2025	School opens for Spring term
Friday 14th February 2025	School closes for Spring half-term
Monday 24th February 2025	School re-opens after Spring half-term
Friday 4th April 2025	School closes for the end of Spring term
Monday 21st April 2025	School closed: Easter Monday
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	School opens for Summer term
Monday 5th May 2025	School closed: May Day
Friday 23rd May 2025	School closes for Summer half-term
Monday 2nd June 2025	School re-opens after Summer half-term
Friday 18th July 2025	School closes for end of summer term
Monday 21st July 2025	CPD Day 4 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	CPD Day 5 (school closed to students)

- Of the 195 days, five are to be pupil occasional holidays. School must open 190 days to students.
- One of these must be polling day, if schools are closed due to the elections.
- Two of the five days may be disaggregated.

Our New Daily Routine.

Please ensure that your child is on school site for 8.30am to be dismissed with the rest of their form group. Arriving on time ensures a positive start to the day.

2024/25

Session	Session length	Time	Year
Arrive on site	10 min	8:30 – 8:40	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Focus	30min	8:40 – 9:10	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 1	1hr	9:10 – 10:10	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Break	15min	10:10 – 10:25	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 2	1hr	10:25 – 11:25	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

Session	Session length	Time	Year	Session	Session length	Time	Year	Session	Session length	Time	Year
Lunch A	30min	11:25–11:55	8, 10	Lesson 3	30 min	11:25–11:55	7	Lesson 3	1hr	11:25–12:25	9, 11
Lesson 3	1hr	11:55–12:55	8, 10	Lunch B	30 min	11:55–12:25	7	Lunch C	30min	12:25–12:55	9, 11
				Lesson 3	30 min	12:25–12:55	7				

Session	Session length	Time	Year
Lesson 4	1hr	12:55 – 13:55	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Transition	5min	13:55 – 14:00	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 5	1hr	14:00 – 15:00	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

Get Inspired 2024 Letter to Yr11 Parents from Calderdale Council

Please contact: C+K

Email: events@ckcareers.org.uk

Date: October 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Post 16 Opportunities for Students in Calderdale

I am writing to invite you to attend the **Get Inspired Event being held on Thursday 10 October 2024.**

The event will take place at The Shay Stadium, Shaw Hill, Halifax HX1 2YS between 4.30 and 7.30pm.

C+K and Employment Hub welcome you to the ‘Get Inspired’ event, an engaging and informative careers evening aimed at Year 11 students and their parents from the Calderdale area.

We understand that choosing the right career path can be exciting and overwhelming, so we’ve organised this event to provide valuable information and guidance. Whether you’re a student looking to explore different career options or a parent/carer seeking information to support a young person’s future, this event is the perfect place for you to gain knowledge, make connections, and make informed decisions - all under one roof!

Please contact: C+K

So come along and join us, where you can:

- find out about the options available after Year 11
- chat with employers, training providers, school sixth forms, colleges, and universities
- discuss your future options, such as full-time education, including university
- find out about apprenticeships from intermediate level to degree apprenticeships

- get careers advice and guidance from our C+K careers advisers
- watch live presentations

All throughout the evening, C+K and Employment Hub careers advisers will be around the Stadium ready to answer any questions you might have. Or just pop by to our stand and pick up some of our leaflets and goodies!!

For a full list of exhibitors - click here: <https://ck.mydirections.co.uk/events/calderdale-get-inspired-october-2024>

This is a ticketed event, please visit Eventbrite - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/calderdale-get-inspired-2024-tickets-911960407127> to book your place.

Parking costs 50p per hour and can be paid with cash or through the APCOA App. For more information visit this link: <https://new.calderdale.gov.uk/parking/car-parks-and-street-parking/car-parks/shay-stadium>

Yours Sincerely

Joanne Mackintosh

Employment Hub Manager

Free parenting clinics

Free Parenting Clinics

with
Anisa Lewis
Positive Parenting
www.anisalewis.com



September
19th @ 12.30pm
Confidence

Are you worried about your child's confidence?

What IS the difference between confidence and self-esteem?

Is a lack of confidence stopping your child from getting the most out of their experiences?

If these questions resonated with you and got you thinking then join Anisa (Parenting Coach) on the 19th of September for her monthly Free Parenting Clinic. This online talk is focused on confidence and what we can do to support ourselves and our young people.

Join us on Zoom, for the 30-minute talk.

Book here:

<https://anisalewis.as.me/theclinic>

or

email: hello@anisalewis.com for the booking link

(The clinic will be recorded and sent out to those who register to attend.)

FREE Parenting Clinics



www.anisalewis.com

To book visit: <https://anisalewis.as.me/theclinic>
or email: hello@anisalewis.com

September

19th, 12.30 pm

Confidence

October

10th, 12.30 pm

Anxiety

November

7th, 12.30 pm

Behaviour

December

5th, 12.30 pm

Emotions

Learning Managers for next academic year 2024-2025



Just to remind you all of our 5 Learning Managers and their contact details, should you ever need to email them.

Year 7 -Mrs. Townend

Email: a.townend@todhigh.co.uk

Year 8 - Mrs. Kontogiannopoulou

Email: demik@todhigh.co.uk

Year 9 - Mrs. Thompson

Email: p.thompson@todhigh.co.uk

Year 10 - Mrs. Stansfield

Email: e.stansfield@todhigh.co.uk

Year 11 - Miss. James

Email: j.james@todhigh.co.uk