

February 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we reach the halfway point of the academic year, I want to celebrate the strong foundations we have built together. It has been a year of ambition, progress and partnership — and the culture we are creating is one where every student can **Aspire, Create and Innovate**.

Our **college system** is now firmly established. Every student is known, supported and championed by their Personalised Learning Tutor and College team. This ensures clear, consistent support, strengthens belonging and enables early intervention when needed.

At the heart of our shared learning is the **Flegg Fundamentals: The Book of Knowledge**. Issued each half term, it brings together the essential knowledge, wider reading and learning strategies for all subjects. Flegg Fundamentals allows families to:

- Support and discuss learning at home
- Encourage reflection and progress
- Celebrate new knowledge and skills
- See exactly what students are learning and why it matters
- How to support revision and memory through shared strategies

Students continue to develop **metacognitive skills**, thinking about their thinking, reflecting on strengths and identifying next steps. The use of pink pens to do this is now firmly established in our learning process. Reading for pleasure remains central, helping students to **think critically, broaden understanding, and build lifelong skills**. There are extended reading opportunities included in our Flegg Fundamentals for you to share with your child.

Your engagement is vital. Through Academic Review Days, parents' evenings, using Flegg Fundamentals, and open communication with College teams, your partnership directly strengthens student success. Together, we reinforce a culture of **kindness, ambition and achievement**, where students thrive academically, personally and socially.

The year ahead continues to be full of opportunities. With strong systems, clear expectations and our shared values guiding us, we are confident every student can **Aspire higher, Create boldly, and Innovate with curiosity**. Thank you for your continued support — your involvement makes all the difference.

Warm regards,



Simon Gilbert-Barnham - Senior Principal

| Dates for your Diary | Event |
|--|---|
| Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February | Half Term |
| Monday 23 rd February | Staff Training Day |
| Tuesday 24 th February | Students Return 8.30am |
| Friday 6 th March | World Book Day |
| Wednesday 11 th March | SEND Parental Drop-In (2-3pm) |
| Saturday 14 th March | Easter Fayre (10am-4pm) |
| Thursday 19 th March | Year 9 & 10 Parents Evening (3pm-7pm) |
| Tuesday 24 th March | Year 11 Preparing for Exams Evening (3pm-7pm) |
| Fri 27 th March – Fri 10 th April | Easter Holidays |
| Mon 4 th May | Bank Holiday |
| Mon 25 th – Fri 29 th May | Half Term |
| Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th June | Enrichment Week |
| Mon 29 th & Tue 30 th June | Year 6 Transition Days |
| Tue 30 th June | Year 6 Transition Evening |
| Friday 17 th July | Last day of term |
| For the full year term dates please see our website | |

KEY REMINDERS

Supporting your child in their Learning – Our Curriculum

Our curriculum refers to the content and skills our students learn during their 5-year journey with us. Our curriculum is underpinned by 'ambition' and 'social justice' as we aspire to ensure all students become subject experts, literary scholars, mathematicians, scientists, historian or linguists.

Our curriculum prepares students to be successful in their GCSEs and beyond.

Metacognition

Metacognition is 'thinking about thinking' and its impact is supported by a vast body of research. In lessons students routinely reflect on their areas of strength and identify the next steps in their learning so they are able to move forward with their learning. At Flegg we identify this through the use of Pink Pens in the classroom and exercise books so we can see the students application of metacognition.

Flegg Fundamentals: The Book of Knowledge

Research shows that new learning can quickly be forgotten unless it is revisited and practised. Over time, your child will be exposed to a huge amount of knowledge, and we are committed to helping them remember it long-term so it becomes secure, useful and transferable across subjects, supporting future learning and employment.

One way we do this is through Flegg Fundamentals: The Book of Knowledge. Issued every half term, Flegg Fundamentals brings together the key knowledge for all subjects in one place. It contains knowledge organisers – concise summaries of the essential facts and concepts your child needs to learn – as well as carefully chosen wider reading to broaden understanding and encourage reading beyond the classroom. Flegg Fundamentals also introduces learning strategies that help students remember and recall knowledge effectively. Students are taught how to use these strategies in school, and clear guidance and video links are included in the book for reference. These approaches support learning throughout their time at Flegg and beyond.

Your child will receive a paper copy of Flegg Fundamentals at the start of each half term with a digital version also available on our website Flegg High Ormiston Academy - Flegg Fundamentals

Extended Learning

We help students build a strong foundation of knowledge and skills through regular practice and retrieval, ensuring learning is remembered and built upon over time. As part of our curriculum design, planned opportunities for practice at home support this process, particularly through the essential knowledge in the Flegg Fundamentals Book of Knowledge.

Across all subjects, your child will be set Extended Learning that:

- Is regular, purposeful and relevant
- Supports engagement with the knowledge organisers in Flegg Fundamentals
- Encourages use of the recall strategies outlined in Flegg Fundamentals
- Includes subject-specific wider reading
- Provides opportunities to apply knowledge in different and more complex contexts
- Is revisited and built upon in future lessons

Students in Years 7–10 can also access additional support by attending the Raise Room (afterschool located in the Library) during period 6. These sessions provide a quiet, supervised study space led by a member of staff.

Reading

At Flegg, we believe that it is our collective challenge to open our student's eyes to the magic and power of words and the opportunities that this can bring for them in their futures. We aim to cultivate an environment where reading for pleasure is a fundamental part of every single student's journey.

Reading enables our students to discover new worlds, meet new people and learn about the past, but it also has the power to transform lives. By sparking growing imaginations, stimulating critical thinking and helping to develop empathy, reading gives our students the very skills they need to succeed at school, at work and in life.

It is undeniable that being able to read confidently is an essential life skill; the importance of reading just for pleasure should not be underestimated. Study after study has shown how reading for pleasure is vital for academic success, mental health and even later economic success.

At Flegg reading for pleasure is promoted through:

- Our Read Aloud Programme
- Regular LRC (Learning Resource Centre) lessons for all students in Years 7 and 8
- Reading for Pleasure in English lessons
- The selection of high-quality texts across the curriculum that are embedded in lessons
- Half termly piece of wider reading of a high-quality text set for extended learning
- Programme of events and spotlighting of reading for pleasure

Students are supported with their reading across the curriculum through a range of strategies in the classroom. This could be explicit teaching of skimming and scanning; pre-teaching of vocabulary or focused comprehension questions.

Enrichment @ Flegg and Introducing our Raise Rooms

- Our Raise Rooms will be open after half term. This provides a quiet study space for students in years 7-10 in our LRC from 3.00pm to 3.45pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Students will be supported to use the strategies in the Flegg Fundamentals to complete their extended learning set in lessons.
- Our full enrichment offer is available on our website including an outline of all the different ways we have planned to extend opportunities both in and out of the classroom. This includes information on our enrichment activities, societies, college clash and guilds. We will continue to update this with the increasing offer and have included our current enrichment clubs and activities on offer in the Spring and Summer term.

SEND Parental Drop-In

This term includes several valuable opportunities for parents and carers to meet with staff and engage with the SEND team. There is a SEND parental drop-in on **Wednesday 11th March (2-3pm)**, and **Year 9 and 10 Parents' Evening on Thursday 19th March**. These events will give you the opportunity to meet with the SEND team, discuss provision, and review your child's PEN profile. We value our strong partnership with parents and carers and hope to keep you informed, supported, and confident as we work together to ensure every student can thrive.

Holiday Activities

- The Big Norfolk Festive Holiday Fun program offers opportunities for young people to engage in a wide range of activities.
- To find out the full list of what is on search for **Big Norfolk Holiday Fun** - [Big Norfolk Holiday Fun Activities](#)





Use and Importance of Go4Schools

- It provides you with crucial live up to date data and information on your child including:
 - ✓ What **extended learning** they have been set
 - ✓ What their **attendance** is
 - ✓ How many **Heart points** they have earned and a record of any **behaviour events**
 - ✓ How they have done in **assessments** and how they are making progress in all subject areas
- It is the tool that creates, stores and issues **half termly progress snap shots and reports throughout the year**

Academy Uniform:

For a full list of uniform please see our website <https://fleggormistonacademy.co.uk>

- Our main uniform stockists is Harrisons, located in Gorleston, although uniform may be purchased from alternative outlets. They have a wide range of sizes available in both trousers and skirts and will also stock the Flegg tie and optional Flegg 'V' neck jumper with the logo. It is important that the skirts worn are the correct style (22" four drop pleat skirt) and the trousers are navy, full-length tailored trousers. Shoes must be smart plain black. Boots, trainers and canvas shoes are not accepted. Makeup should be natural without the addition of false eyelashes and nails should also be natural without the addition of varnish, gel or acrylics.
- Hair should be of natural colour and style. Students can wear a watch and a single stud earring in each ear, but aside from this, we do not permit any other jewellery, clear retainers and/or the covering of piercings with medical tape. Any items worn which do not meet our uniform expectations will be confiscated and available for collection at the end of the day. Please also be aware that certain piercings take several weeks to heal, so please keep this in mind if allowing your child to obtain one over the holidays. All students will still be asked to remove these, regardless of where they are in the healing process.
- Upon our return, students not correctly attired or not meeting our uniform expectations will be placed into our Reflection Room and will not return to lessons until the issues have been fully resolved. I should stress that this is absolutely the last thing we want as an academy, as we are keen to return and look forward to getting all students back into their lessons working hard and thinking hard. We will have spare uniform available for students to borrow to support this but cannot guarantee that all sizes and fits will be available.
- If you have any questions relating to uniform please feel free to contact the academy and we will be happy to help.

Equipment:

We are keen to start the term well, making the most of every learning opportunity. Over the holidays, please could we ask that you check what your child has in their pencil case and purchase any missing items on our equipment list below, can you also encourage your child to look after them carefully. These are essential items which are needed for lessons, assessments and examinations, we are training our students to be well-prepared, exam ready and organised. If there are any issues or concerns with this, then please do not hesitate to get in contact.

- Pens – Black or Blue
- Ruler, rubber, pencils and pencil sharpener
- Scientific calculator – Casio FX85 ClassWiz series
- PE/dance kit (The new kit is stocked at Harrisons)
- Scissors, highlighters and a glue stick are not essential, but advantageous
- Pink Pens for self/peer assessment – students will be provided this by the academy

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Pupil Premium Eligibility Applications

If you believe you might be eligible it is an easy check and one that is well worth doing. Not only does this provide your child with Free School Dinners from our fabulous cafe it also currently incorporates the Norfolk Voucher Scheme for families during holiday time and provides valuable resource to the academy to support the interventions and opportunities we have in place for children (including our enrichment programme).

- Norfolk County Council will review the voucher system as we move forward and further information can be found on their website.
- We know circumstances change. If yours does, then please do check if your child is eligible for Free School Meals. This can be done through the Norfolk County Council website.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-meals-and-milk>

Mental Wellbeing and Kooth

Many parents and carers of children and young people are worried or concerned about their child's mental wellbeing. It can be difficult to know where to turn, or what services are available to support your child.

Kooth is an online platform to help young people with their mental health and wellbeing.

It's a welcoming space for your child to safely explore their feelings. They can anonymously talk to other people their own age on moderated discussion forums, and chat to mental health professionals via messaging.

They're a British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy-accredited digital mental health service, and provide free services through the NHS.

Their team of professionals are trained to offer clinically-safe advice while lending a supportive ear for whatever your child's facing.

More information for parents is available at: <https://explore.kooth.com/families/>



If you live in one of these areas and your family doesn't have access to a computer, you can apply through us to have us send you one - not as a loan or rental. It's for your family, for good.



- **Staffordshire** (Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire Moorlands, Stafford, East Staffordshire, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Lichfield, South Staffordshire, Cannock Chase local authorities), England.
- **West Cumbria** (Cumberland local authority), England.
- **Ayrshire** (North Ayrshire, East Ayrshire, South Ayrshire local authorities), Scotland.
- **Norfolk Coast** (Kings Lynn and West Norfolk, North Norfolk, Great Yarmouth local authorities), England.
- **Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend**, Wales
- **Lincolnshire Coast** (North Lincolnshire, North East Lincolnshire, East Lindsey, Boston and South Holland local authorities), England.
- **Northern Ireland**.

Next Steps

If you're the parent/care giver of a child (4-16) who doesn't have access to a suitable device and you live in one of the above areas you can:
[Go to digitalpovertyalliance.org/tech4families/](http://digitalpovertyalliance.org/tech4families/)
 Visit a local Currys store or, text 0784445476 to receive a form by post.

Scan me:

