

Issue 1- Autumn 1, Week 1

The Beacon

We exist to transform the lives of children through education

Dear Families,

I am very excited and privileged to join Lift Beacon High as the new Head of School, and welcome you to the first issue of our weekly family bulletin, The Beacon. We have listened carefully to feedback from families about how we can improve communication. The Beacon will help us share key information in a clear and streamlined way, while also celebrating student success and the many positive things happening across our school each week. I hope you find it both informative and enjoyable, and we will always welcome your ideas and suggestions.



On Friday, we welcomed our new Year 7 students to Lift Beacon High. They made a fantastic start, recording 96.7% attendance, one of the strongest starts to the year across Lift Schools and locally in Islington.

It was a small but important sign of what is possible when students, staff and families work together. We have an ambitious journey ahead as we work to make Lift Beacon High one of the most improved and successful schools in the country, and I am incredibly excited about what we can achieve together.

Thank you for your support, trust and partnership. I look forward to sharing the journey with you through The Beacon each week.

Mr Collingwoode-Williams,
Head of School



Believe. Belong. Become. *Inspiring to be a light for others.*

Key Messages

New staff joining the Lift Beacon High

We are delighted to welcome a number of new colleagues to Lift Beacon High this term. They bring valuable experience and expertise to our school, and we are very pleased to have them joining our community as we continue to strengthen our curriculum and improve the experience of our students.

Please join me in giving them a very warm welcome.

Teacher Name	Role
Ms L Duncan	Head of Music
Ms S Chan	Head of Art
Ms F Ali	Teacher of Science
Ms C Dougan	Teacher of Maths

Uniform: Clarity on Shoes, PE Uniform and Equipment

Shoes

After speaking with some parents and carers on Friday, I wanted to clarify our expectations around footwear.

Students in **Years 7–10 should wear school shoes rather than trainers**. As there have been some mixed messages, families will have until **after Christmas** to make this change. Please note that trainers may affect a student's ability to represent the school at some visits or events where full uniform is required.

Year 11 students may continue to wear trainers this academic year.

Acceptable	Unacceptable
	 × Black Nike Air Force 1s × Vans or trainer-style school shoes

Equipment

2x Black or blue pen 2x green pen 2 x pencil 2 x highlighters 1 x pencil sharpener 1 x rubber	1x 15cm or 30cm ruler 1x Casio FX-83GTCW scientific calculator 1x Yondr pouch Pencil case Water bottle Black school bag**
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**The school bag must be black from after the October half term

PE Uniform

This approach provides a phased introduction of branded PE uniform, while maintaining a consistent, practical and affordable core PE kit across Years 7–11.

Year Group	PE T-Shirt	Long-Sleeve Top	Shorts	Sports Trousers
Year 7	Branded polo T-shirt	Branded quarter-zip fleece***	Plain black sports shorts	Plain black jogging bottoms
Years 8–9	Plain black until Christmas; branded polo T-shirt from Spring Term	Plain black until Christmas; branded black quarter-zip fleece*** from Spring Term		
Years 10–11	Plain black T-shirt	Plain black, no hood		

***The black quarter-zip fleece is optional

- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn during PE lessons.
- Cycling shorts and leggings are not permitted
- For health and safety reasons, students may be required to remove jewellery during PE lessons where the activity presents a particular risk.

Come and see Lift Beacon High: Open Mornings and Open Evening

This term, we are delighted to be opening our doors to families across our community.

Our Open Mornings and Open Evening are an opportunity for prospective Year 5 and Year 6 families to visit the school, meet our staff and students, experience our learning environment and hear more about our plans for the future.

We are also inviting our **current Year 7 families** to our Open Evening, giving you the opportunity to see more of the school, meet colleagues and hear about the journey ahead.

Open morning dates can be found below.



Attendance - Every minute matters

Thank you for your continued support in helping students arrive at school on time each day.

Our mornings are an important part of the school day. Students may take part in reading, personal development, assemblies, intervention



and key messages from their tutor, Head of Year and the wider school team. Even arriving a few minutes late can mean missing something important.

Students are very welcome to join our Breakfast Club from 0800 to 0830, which is a great way to start the day.

We ask that all students arrive at a good time and they are ready to begin their day before 0840. Students arriving at 0840 or later will be recorded as late, and receive a 30 minute detention.

Pre Loved Uniform

At Lift Beacon High, we want to support our families while also reducing waste and making good-quality school uniform available to everyone.

We are therefore building our Pre Loved Uniform offer. If you have any clean, good quality items of Lift Beacon High uniform that your child has outgrown or no longer needs, we would be very grateful for your donations.

Donated items will be made available to other families who may benefit from them.

We are particularly looking for:

- Blazers
 - Trousers and skirts
 - Shirts
 - Jumpers
 - PE kit
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Assessments in the next 2 weeks.

Mo Abdelmula - Assistant Principal, Emma Dufael - Vice Principal

During this term, students in **Years 7, 8, 9 and 10** will complete a series of assessments to help us understand their current strengths, identify any gaps in learning and ensure that teaching and support are carefully matched to their needs.

These assessments will include NGRT reading assessments, GL English and Maths assessments, and English No More Marking assessments.

NGRT assessment can be seen below in the key dates.

English No More Marking assessments will take place during English lessons between Tuesday 8 September and Friday 18 September.

Students do not need to complete any additional revision for these assessments. We simply ask that they attend school every day, arrive on time and approach each assessment with their best effort.

The information gathered will give teachers an important starting point for the year and will help us provide the right level of challenge and support for every student.

Year 11 Revise2Rise

Sam Owusu - Director of Learning: Raising Standards Lead (RSL), Mo Abdelmula - Assistant Principal

As shared before the summer holidays, Year 11 Revise2Rise will be starting from Monday 7th September. Revise2Rise take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Information from our community

CAMHS Crisis Line

For a quick reminder of the details of the CAMHS crisis line, please see this [flyer](#). The contact number is NHS 111, Option 2.

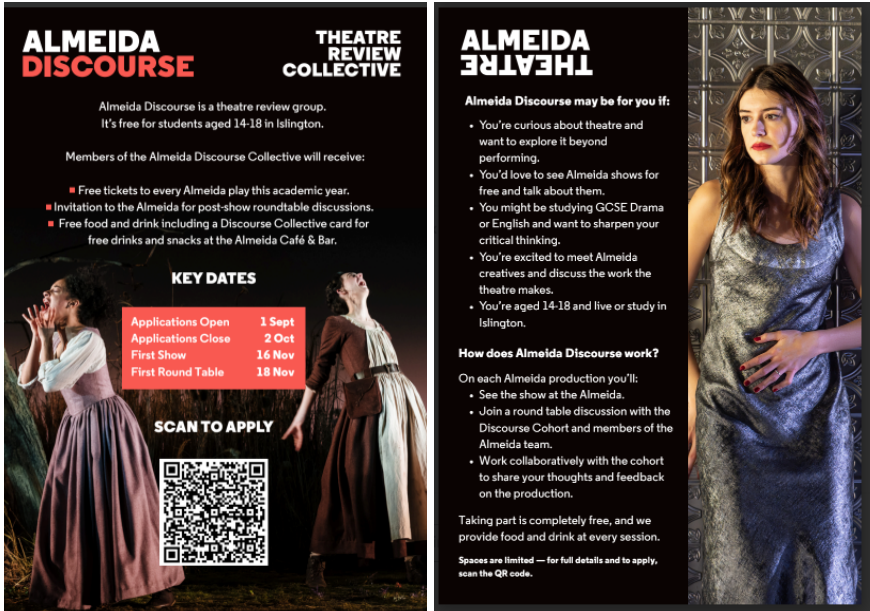
Almeida: Discourse

Almeida is gearing up for another jam-packed year of Schools and Young People's work, and we wanted to let you be the first to know about DISCOURSE, a theatre review group free for students aged 14- 18 studying in Islington.

We're now recruiting for a cohort of young people who would like to join..

All the details are attached to the flyer, but students will receive,

- Free tickets to every Almeida play this academic year.
- Invitation to the Almeida for post-show roundtable discussions.
- Free food and drink plus a Discourse Collective card and 50% off snacks and drinks at the Almeida Café & Bar.



ALMEIDA DISCOURSE

Almeida Discourse is a theatre review group.
It's free for students aged 14-18 in Islington.

Members of the Almeida Discourse Collective will receive:

- Free tickets to every Almeida play this academic year.
- Invitation to the Almeida for post-show roundtable discussions.
- Free food and drink including a Discourse Collective card for free drinks and snacks at the Almeida Café & Bar.

KEY DATES

Applications Open	1 Sept
Applications Close	2 Oct
First Show	16 Nov
First Round Table	18 Nov

SCAN TO APPLY



ALMEIDA THEATRE

Almeida Discourse may be for you if:

- You're curious about theatre and want to explore it beyond performing.
- You'd love to see Almeida shows for free and talk about them.
- You might be studying GCSE Drama or English and want to sharpen your critical thinking.
- You're excited to meet Almeida creatives and discuss the work the theatre makes.
- You're aged 14-18 and live or study in Islington.

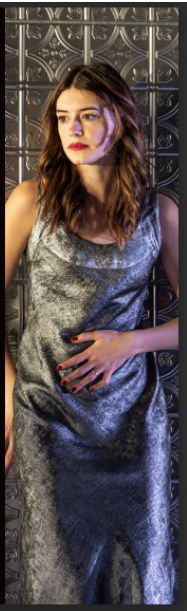
How does Almeida Discourse work?

On each Almeida production you'll:

- See the show at the Almeida.
- Join a round table discussion with the Discourse Cohort and members of the Almeida team.
- Work collaboratively with the cohort to share your thoughts and feedback on the production.

Taking part is completely free, and we provide food and drink at every session.

Spaces are limited — for full details and to apply, scan the QR code.



Dates for your diary

Two weeks look ahead

Monday 7th September	Years 10 and 11 return
Tuesday 8th September	Years 8 and 9 return
Wednesday 9th September	
Thursday 10th September	- Year 10 NGRT (P1 & 2) - Year 8 NGRT (P3 & 4)
Friday 11th September	- Year 7 NGRT (P1 & 2) - Year 9 NGRT (P3 & 4)
Monday 14th September	Open Morning 0900 - 1000 (AHR) - Year 7 English GL Assessment (P1 & 2) - Year 8 Maths GL Assessment (P3 & 4)
Tuesday 15th September	- Year 9 English GL Assessment (P3 & 4) - Year 10 Maths GL Assessment (P1 & 2)
Wednesday 16th September	- Year 8 English GL Assessment (P1 & 2) - Year 7 Maths GL Assessment (P3 & 4)
Thursday 17th September	- Year 10 English GL Assessment (P3 & 4) - Year 9 Maths GL Assessment (P1 & 2)
Friday 18th September	NGRT Catch Up (P1 - P4)

Key Dates

Autumn 1

Monday 14th September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Wednesday 23rd September: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Tuesday 29th September: Open Evening 1530 - 1930 (for Year 5, 6 and current Year 7s)

Thursday 1st October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Friday 1st October: Open Morning 0900 - 1000

Half Term: Monday 21st December - Sunday 1st November

Autumn 2

Wednesday 2nd December: Year 11 Parents' Evening 1600 - 1800

Thursday 3rd December: INSET Day

Thursday 4th December: INSET Day

Friday 18th December: Celebration Assemblies and Last day of term

Half Term: Monday 19th October - Sunday 3rd January

Spring 1

Monday 4th January: INSET Day

Tuesday 5th January: INSET Day

Wednesday 6th January: First day of School

Useful Links and Emails

ParentPay: www.parentpay.com

Safeguarding: safeguarding@liftbeaconhigh.org.

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children): nspcc.org.uk

Childline: childline.org.uk Contact: 0800 1111

Student Success

This section will be used each week to highlight and celebrate student success. This section

will therefore look different from next week - watch this space!

In the meantime, we'd love to take this opportunity to congratulate all our students who received their exam results last month. In particular to Ahmed, Yusef and Peter

- Ahmed achieved ten GCSEs - seven grade 9s; two grade 8s; and one D2
- Yusef achieved nine GCSEs - two grade 8s; two grade 7s; two grade 6s; one grade 5; and two M2s
- Peter achieved ten GCSEs - four grade 8s; three grade 7s; two grade 6s; and one M2

Contact

Tel: 020 7607 5885

Email: postbox@liftbeaconhigh.org

Address: Hilldrop Rd, London N7 0JG

Lift Beacon High



We look forward to welcoming
prospective and current students
& parents

Tuesday
29 September 2026
4.30pm - 7.00pm

Hilldrop Road,
London, N7 0JG



Open Evening



Lift Beacon
High



We exist to
transform the
lives of
children
through
education.

