



**MATTHEW MOSS
HIGH SCHOOL**
Learning for Life

Transition Handbook

Year 6 to Year 7

Welcome Class of 2026

‘Thoughtful hard work shifts anything’

‘Respect everyone fear no one’

‘Desire to learn is universal’



Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to the vibrant Matthew Moss High School community! We are delighted to have you join our family, where our commitment to providing a transformational educational experience begins today. We are a diverse and harmonious community that views every member as vital in maintaining a calm, respectful, and happy environment.

At the heart of our thriving ethos are the CHANGE values —
Composure, High Standards, Agency, Numeracy & Literacy, Growth Mindset, and Empathy.

Dispositions that empower our learners to take ownership of their journey and strive for excellence. Whether it is navigating a school day to build personal Agency or embracing a Growth Mindset in our mixed-performance classes, your journey here is designed to empower you to be both personally and academically successful.



We know that our students make our school the special place that it is, and we are confident that you will make a positive impact on our school, our community, and the wider world. We are determined that all young people in our care leave school with strong academic achievement, a mature skill-set, and a sense of direction that enables them to live a life both satisfying to themselves and of significant value to society.

We are delighted to work together with you to help our learners excel.



Ms Charlotte Leach - Rogers
Headteacher

Quality of Education

At Matthew Moss High School, our curriculum is learner- centred.

We want all learners to have an appropriate and ambitious curriculum which empowers young people for a life of learning both satisfying to themselves and of significant value to society.

We provide our learners with a rich diet of academic and wider knowledge and an experience aligned with our CHANGE offer.



Composure – We remain effective under pressure

High Standards – We expect much from ourselves and others

Agency – We know how to learn and make things happen

Numeracy & Literacy – We master our use of numbers and words

Growth Mindset – We learn to succeed through practice

Empathy – We care about others as well as ourselves

Our curriculum includes all the requirements of the National Curriculum and contains additional opportunities for learners to engage in the wider pursuit of enrichment opportunities. Through its design, the curriculum seeks to equip pupils with the intellectual, cultural, and emotional means for life beyond school, meaning they truly learn for life.

Our Senior Leadership Team



Ms Charlotte Leach Rogers
Headteacher



Mr Paul Clough
Deputy Headteacher



Mr Sam Hinchliffe
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Anita Gocoul
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Liza Carr
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Natasha Chadwick
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Helen Ashworth
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Toni Moser
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs Mary Rostron
Associate Assistant
Headteacher

Our School Pastoral System

There are five families: **Beech, Lime, Maple, Oak and Willow**. Each family has its own personality, and is led by a Head of Family, Second in Family, Assistant Head of Family, as well as a team of form tutors.

The pastoral system at Matthew Moss High School is unique!

By using a vertical tutoring system, we bring together students from every year group. This allows learners to support and inspire one another, creating a community that reflects the world outside the classroom

Their form tutor is the most important member of staff in their school career and is a vital link between home and school.



Miss Charley Turner



Mrs Georgina Owens



Mrs Rebecca Lowe



Miss Natalie Kay



Ms Zoe Walsh



Miss Sophie Barber



Miss Georgie Doolin



Mr Kurt Young



Miss Zoha Qayum



Miss Danielle Gilchrist



Miss Juliette Walters



Miss Zaynah Ahmad



Miss Emma Flynn



Mrs Hannah Whitworth



Mr Alex Stansfield



Miss Bethany Rigby

During form time, learners will participate in a variety of engaging activities; they will be encouraged to interact and discuss current affairs, they will have the opportunity to discuss their learning with their form tutor and will be encouraged to make valuable contributions to school life, through sharing their ideas and opinions regarding important school matters.

Safeguarding Team

At Matthew Moss High School, your child's safety and well-being are our top priorities. We are deeply committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our young people, ensuring that every student feels secure, supported, and valued throughout their time with us.

To achieve this, we continuously develop our processes to ensure our safeguarding procedures are robust and effective. Our staff and volunteers work together to maintain a strong culture of care, where everyone is dedicated to providing a protective and nurturing environment for our learners.

Our goal is to support our students in becoming successful learners who enjoy their education and reach their full potential. By providing a safe space to grow, we help them become confident individuals ready to lead healthy, fulfilling lives and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to our community.

We are committed to inspiring, challenging and safeguarding our learners, enabling them to become:

Any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of learners should be discussed with one of the following designated safeguarding staff.



Paul Clough

Deputy Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



Liza Carr

Assistant Headteacher
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Charlotte Leach-Rogers

Headteacher
Senior Lead



Chris Jennings

Watergrove Trust
Safeguarding Lead



Deborah Darnbrough

Learning Mentor
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Aanisaa Dutt

Learning Mentor
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Elizabeth Cootes

Learning Mentor
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)



Gemma Crosby

Learning Mentor
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Transition Information

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our transition events! We value the partnership between home and school and look forward to supporting your child's entire journey from Year 7 to Year 11, guiding them every step of the way as they transition into their future careers or further education.



Transition Evening for (Parents and Learners) - Monday 6th July 2026 at 6.00pm

Transition evening is a wonderful opportunity to meet the staff who will be supporting your child, including their form tutor and family team. You'll hear directly from our Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team about what to expect in September, with an opportunity to ask questions to ensure you and your child feel fully prepared for life at Matthew Moss.

Transition Day (Learners only) - Tuesday 7th July 2026 at 08.50am

Transition Day offers Year 6 learners a true taste of life at Matthew Moss High School. It's an exciting opportunity to experience our diverse range of lessons, get to know the school layout, and begin building friendships with their future classmates before they join us in September.

- Your child should be dressed in their primary school uniform for the day.
- Your child should arrive at Matthew Moss High School for 8:30am - they will be welcomed by our team.
- Your child should bring a bag with them, including equipment needed for learning (pen, pencil and a ruler).
- Your child will follow a normal school timetable which will be explained by their family teams during a welcome assembly.
- All Year 6 transition learners will be given snacks and a drink at break time as well as a school dinner.
- We have water fountains at our school from which our learners will fill their water bottles up during break and lunch time. Your child may bring a water bottle to use.
- The day will end at 14:30pm. Please ensure your child has a safe journey home.

Term Dates

Academic Year 2026 - 2027

Term	School Opens	School Closes
Autumn Term 1	Wednesday 2nd September 2026	Friday 23 rd October 2026
Autumn Term 2	Monday 2 nd November 2026	Friday 18 th December 2026
Spring Term 1	Monday 4 th January 2027	Friday 12 th February 2027
Spring Term 2	Monday 22 nd February 2027	Thursday 25 th March 2027
Summer Term 1	Monday 12 th April 2027	Friday 28 th May 2027
Summer Term 2	Monday 7 th June 2027	Friday 16 th July 2027

School Inset Days

Academic Year 2026-2027

Inset Day	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Trust Training Day	Friday 9th October 2026

Year 7 Induction Day

Year 7 Induction Day - Thursday 3rd September 2026

We look forward to welcoming your child on their first day at Matthew Moss High School on **Thursday, 3rd September 2026**. To ensure a smooth start, this day is exclusively for our new Year 7 learners. The focus will be on building strong relationships with their form tutor, family team, and peers. Through a blend of introductory lessons and team-building activities, students will have the space to explore the building, get to grips with their timetables, and settle in comfortably. Please ensure your child arrives in full school uniform and ready for learning.

All Year Groups return - Friday 4th September 2026

Within their form group, your child will meet and learn alongside students from various year groups, fostering a sense of community from day one. They will then transition into their new school timetable, marking the exciting start of their life at Matthew Moss.



The school Day

School starts- Form Time	08:35
Period 1	08:55
Period 2	09:45
Break	10:35
Period 3	10:55
Period 4	11:45
Lunch	12:35
Period 5	13:25
Period 6	14:15
School Ends	15:05

Attendance and Punctuality

High attendance is key to your child's future. Our expectation at Matthew Moss is 97% or above. To help our students meet this goal, the pastoral team and form tutors proactively monitor any learner whose attendance reaches 95% or below, ensuring they receive the right support to succeed.

When attendance falls below 90%, it puts a learner's ability to reach their full potential at significant risk. Our attendance team monitors these cases closely to provide the necessary intervention. We ask parents and carers to work in close partnership with the school to ensure the best possible attendance and to help your child stay on track for success.



Punctuality

We expect all learners to be in their form rooms ready for the **8:35 am** start. To maintain high standards, we monitor punctuality closely and implement sanctions for repeated lateness. Arrivals after the registers close are classified as unauthorised absences unless a verified, genuine reason is provided.

Absence from School

If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please let us know as soon as possible. You can easily report this by emailing our **Learner Services team at learnerservices@mmhs.co.uk**, or by using the **Arbor app**, you can do this by going into Attendance and then Report an absence or alternatively you may call school and speak to a member of staff regarding your child's attendance.

Medical and Dental Appointments

We kindly ask that medical and dental appointments are booked outside of school hours whenever possible to help your child get the most out of their learning. We understand that this isn't always within your control, so if an appointment during the school day is unavoidable, please just let Learner Services know in advance and share a copy of the appointment card or letter.

Breakfast Club

Our Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8:00 am, offering a great opportunity for students to socialise with staff and peers before lessons begin. With all items priced at just 15p, it's a wonderful space for your child to settle in, chat with our friendly pastoral team, and make new friends across the school.

School Uniform

At Matthew Moss, we view our school uniform as preparation for the professional world. As part of our 'Learning for Life' ethos, we help students understand that how we present ourselves matters—especially during life's big moments, like interviews or public speaking. By following our dress code, learners develop the essential habit of mindful, professional presentation.

Our uniform is detailed below:

- Black skirt or tailored trousers (***not jeans, chinos or leggings***)
- Plain white shirt or blouse (***tucked in***)
- Black jumper, cardigan or blazer (***No hoodies or logos***)
- Either a Matthew Moss tie (£5) or badge (£1) (***ties and badges can be purchased at reception***)
- Plain black footwear
- A bag with a pencil case containing a pen, pencil, ruler, scientific calculator and an eraser.



PE Kit

In line with our school uniform the PE uniform is not branded and can be purchased from any retailer. The basic PE uniform is:

- Black polo shirt / Black rugby shirt / jumper / sweatshirt with no logos
- Black shorts/skirt/skort/sports leggings/tracksuit bottoms
- Non-marking training shoes
- Learners may wish to bring football boots with rubber studs only
- Any items that will keep learners warm in cold conditions e.g, hat, gloves

We expect learners to bring additional footwear for PE lessons and not wear their school footwear .



Recognition and Celebration

Effort is recognised through Achievement Points.

When a learner reaches the landmarks in each of the CHANGE dispositions they are awarded with the appropriate badge and certificate. This is cumulative - meaning that it goes back to the first day in September of Y7 for all year groups.

We have interfamily competitions and learners are frequently nominated by their form tutors and pastoral teams for end of term celebrations, lunches, prizes and trips!

We believe in celebrating success! Parents will be informed when their child has made significant progress, whether it's by going above and beyond in lessons, improvement in behaviour, or participation in school activities.



Achievement Points	Level of Recognition
25	Certificate
50	Bronze
75	Silver
100	Gold
150	Teal

Relationships and Behaviour

Learner Behaviour Expectations

Phone free environment

Matthew Moss is a phone free environment. Therefore whilst in school mobile phones are:

- Never seen
- Never heard
- Never used



All staff will...

Model the expectation and remind learners of expectations of maintaining a phone free environment and confiscate the mobile phone.

If learners refuse,

- Follow the sanction ladder/mobile policy.
- Seek support from other colleagues.

Engagement

- Heads up – not on desks.
- Focus on and respect the person talking.
- Contribute to learning.
- Show Thoughtful Hard Work in every lesson.



Provide lessons that:

- Planned to meet the needs of all learners
- Follow MMHS: Quality of Education
- Set high expectations and standards of learning behaviours.
- Form Tutors will challenge learners in form time about equipment.

Equipment

Bring correct equipment for learning:

- Black pens, pencil and ruler;
- Scientific calculator;
- Bag; PE kit on PE days.



- Form tutor/ staff will give equipment out, record it on Arbor,
- phone home and monitor the situation.

Out of lesson

- Walk around the building at all times.
- Keep left at busy times.
- Only one person to collect resources / photocopying.
- Toilet only allowed if you have a pass or note.
- Refill water bottles at breaks & lunchtimes.



- Stand on their doors at change over of lessons and remind learners about Composure as they move around the building.
- Only allow learners out of the classroom if they have a pass, appointment card or it is an emergency.

Relationships and Behaviour

Learner Behaviour Expectations

Ready to learn

- In form before 8.35am.
- In the classroom at 10:50am prepared for p3 learning.
- In the classroom at 1:20pm prepared for p5 learning.
- Shirt tucked in,
- No hoods or hats inside the building.



Communication

- Be polite and show empathy.
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Use the correct tone – stay in Adult.



Break and Lunchtimes

- Food to be eaten in the canteen areas only.
- Keep to the left at busy times and no running.



All staff will...

- Stand on their doors at the start of lessons and welcome learners into their classroom.
- Challenge lateness and put an appropriate consequence in place.
- Ensure there is a purposeful learning task on arrival.
- At 1:20pm staff supervise learners into classrooms.
- Challenge learners about their uniform,
- Form tutors will contact home and support families
- If needed or put a consequence in place.

Stay in Adult.

- Model a high standard of language and oracy.
- Challenge learners who use inappropriate and discriminatory language and record it on Arbor,
- If necessary put a consequence in place.
- Racist, gender and homophobic language will be recorded and reported.



Show you are bothered.

A sense of belonging is a critical factor in engaging learners and generating discretionary effort.
Be genuinely concerned for the wellbeing of those around you. Show it and act upon it.



Mean it when you say "No."

Learners need the assurance of a bounded and safe environment secured by the present and visible leader of the classroom. Follow up. Own it.

Phone Free Environment

At Matthew Moss, we believe that a focused, distraction-free environment is key to learner success, growth, and well-being. In order to prioritise learning, foster deeper connections, and encourage mindfulness, we have adopted a **Phone-Free environment** during school hours. This policy helps create a space where learners can engage fully in their education, collaborate with peers, and develop important social skills, all without the distractions that personal devices can bring.

Why a Phone-Free Environment? The decision to create a phone-free environment at Matthew Moss stems from our commitment to creating a safe, productive, and supportive atmosphere for all learners. By removing the constant distraction of phones, we give students the opportunity to focus on what truly matters—learning, personal growth, and building positive relationships.

Together, we can create an environment where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, preparing them for success in both school and beyond. We appreciate the support of parents and guardians in helping us maintain this phone-free policy, and together, we can ensure that every student's experience at Matthew Moss is enriching, engaging, and free from unnecessary distractions.

Communication with home



At Matthew Moss, we believe that strong communication between home and school is the foundation for every learner's success. By working together as a dedicated team, parents and educators can provide the best possible support for a child's academic and personal growth. We value this partnership and invite you to join us in creating a supportive environment where your child can truly thrive.

To keep you closely connected to your child's journey, we ask all parents and carers to download and use the Arbor app. Once you have created your account, please take a moment to check that the contact details we have for your child are correct. This ensures that our records stay up to date and that you never miss important information regarding your child's school life.

The Arbor app is your primary gateway for staying informed and engaged. Through the app, we provide frequent updates on your child's progress, behaviour, and overall school experience. You can easily check attendance, view achievement points, and communicate directly with the school, ensuring you are always a part of your child's learning journey at Matthew Moss.

These positive updates help strengthen the home-school partnership and motivate your child to continue working hard. We have a regular newsletter that goes to parents and carers to celebrate the amazing events and successes achieved at Matthew Moss!



We operate a cashless and contactless catering system at Matthew Moss High School. Each learner has an account, which you can top up via Parent Pay. We will send you more information about how to set up your Parent Pay account throughout the transition period, along with a link and login.

School Lunches

Starting September 2026, a full school meal is priced at **£2.70**.

Our weekly rotating menus are displayed in the canteen, offering a diverse range of nutritious options to suit every student's taste and dietary requirements.

Students can choose from traditional hot mains and desserts at the Main Hatch, or visit our 'Grab and Go' stations for pasta, burgers, and jacket potatoes. For a lighter option, our Cold Station provides fresh sandwiches, wraps, and salads.

We are committed to inclusive dining, offering daily vegetarian dishes and a new range of plant-based meals. Every meal deal includes a main dish, a pudding, and a drink, ensuring a balanced and satisfying lunch for all learners.

Journey to School

Getting to school safely is the best way to start the day. Whether your child walks, cycles, arrives by bus, or car, we want them to feel calm and ready to learn from the moment they arrive.

We ask that all our students take care on their journey by being mindful of others and staying safe on the roads. It's a great way for them to show a little independence and responsibility before the start of the school day.

Walking and Biking:

For families living nearby, walking or cycling to school is a brilliant way for learners to get some fresh air and exercise before the day begins. It is a great chance for them to get ready for a day of learning and, travelling with friends makes the journey even more enjoyable.

To support this, we provide on-site bike racks so learners can easily store their bikes while they are in lesson.

Public Transportation:

If your child will be taking the bus to school, we recommend applying for an Igo Pass. This pass ensures they can travel at the reduced concessionary fare.

You can pick up an application form at any TfGM Travelshop, or you can apply online through the Transport for Greater Manchester website.

Once your child has an Igo pass they will be eligible for:

- Concessionary fares on Greater Manchester buses, trams and trains
- System One Junior products
- Smart ticketing on trams and buses. Visit getmethere.com to find out more



As part of our commitment to sustainability, we also support students who are interested in environmental awareness, encouraging them to consider the impact of their journey to school on the planet. We have the Youth Travel ambassador programme who work closely with staff and outside agencies to encourage positive travel choices to and from school.



MATTHEW MOSS HIGH SCHOOL

Learning for Life



Watergrove
Trust

Providing more