

Next Steps to Joining ICA

Welcome to ICA!

Accept
Your Place
by
17th March!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'd like to welcome you to Irlam and Cadishead Academy! My name is Miss Salt and I will be your first point of contact until your child starts at the Academy in September.

To ensure your child has a smooth start, there are a number of administrative tasks we need you to complete. This booklet is designed to guide you through each step starting with accepting your child's place at ICA.



Over the coming weeks I will contact you by phone to make sure you have all the information you need and I look forward to meeting you at the **Parent Coffee Morning** on **Tuesday 17th March 2026**.

You can contact me at
transitions@irlamandcadishead.org.uk

Miss Abbie Salt
Transition & Community Lead



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STEP
UP

To Irlam and Cadishead Academy

Next Steps to Joining ICA

Step 1 It's time to accept your school offer!

- Please head over to the Salford City Council website. This is the website you visited when selecting your secondary school preferences.
- Log into your Family Portal account and accept the offer of a place at Irlam and Cadishead Academy by **17th March 2026**.
- You can access the Family Portal by scanning the QR Code below:



For those who applied using a paper application, you will receive an offer letter from Salford City Council and should return the reply slip directly to Irlam and Cadishead Academy.

Accept by 17th March !



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**STEP
UP**

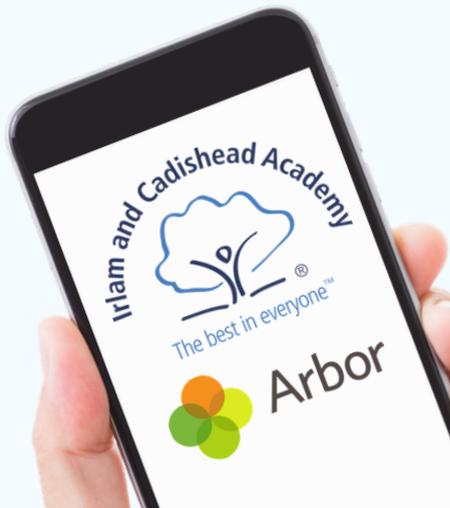
To Irlam and Cadishead Academy

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Step 2 Download the Arbor App and update your information

Parents/Carers must have access to the Arbor App. This App helps you to track your child's timetable, update valuable key information, and keep up to date with communication from the Academy. You are required to log onto Arbor to complete your child's emergency contact details and medical needs including consenting to a number of Academy policies.

- Download the App
- You will receive an email shortly, providing you with your login details for the Parent Portal. Once logged in, please click on 'View Student Profile' and complete all the required information.
- If you have not received a login to the App by 17th March, please contact the Academy as soon as possible so that we can rectify this for you.



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Step 3 Consent to fingerprinting



It is important to consent to fingerprinting as soon as you can access the Arbor App.

During the transition days in June, we will be taking fingerprints from the children to allow them to use the cashless catering facility with ease on their first day at the Academy. We cannot do this without your consent, so it is important that you give your consent via Arbor. Should we not gain consent, this may delay your child purchasing items when at the school tills.

The Academy uses a biometric cashless catering system and students access their allocated accounts by using finger scan identification. Student accounts must be in credit in order to purchase food and/or drinks – as cash payments are not accepted.



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Step 4 Register for free school meals

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Universal Credit (not working)
- Universal Credit (working and net earnings are less than £7,400 per year)*
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit Run-on, paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- If you get support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

** See Salford Council Website for more details*

For more information and how to apply, check out the Salford Council website or telephone 0161 909 6508.



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Step 5 Buy Your Child's School Uniform

We are proud of our Irlam and Cadishead Academy uniform.

The purpose of Irlam and Cadishead Academy uniform is to ensure that students are able to present themselves in a smart manner and to create a sense of belonging.

We aim to maintain a high standard of dress at all times and expect uniform to be worn smartly (e.g. ties tied and worn correctly, shirts tucked in, skirt at knee length etc.).

Our official school uniform supplier is

You can buy all our Irlam and Cadishead Academy branded and non-branded uniform items on their website. **Scan the QR Code!**

Non-branded, generic items can be purchased from a variety of supermarkets and retailers.



WHITTAKERS
• SCHOOLWEAR •



**Uniform will be live on Whittakers website
from Monday 13th July 2026**



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Standard Uniform

Irlam & Cadishead Academy School Uniform



Compulsory



Compulsory



Optional



Compulsory



Compulsory



Compulsory

Branded Blazer

White Collared Shirt

Black V-neck Sweater

Black Smart Trousers

Tartan Skirt

Branded Tie

All footwear must be entirely black and have no coloured logos or soles and not be of ankle height. Boots, heeled footwear or trainers of any sort are not considered acceptable footwear.

Compulsory



Polishable Black Smart Shoes

Compulsory



No Knee High Socks

Black Ankle Socks or Tights

Compulsory:

- Irlam & Cadishead Academy Blazer
- Generic White Collared Cotton Shirt
- Generic Black Smart Tailored Trousers or Tartan Pleated Skirt (must be worn to knee length - MUST NOT BE ROLLED UP)
- Irlam & Cadishead Academy Tie
- Black Ankle Socks or Black Tights
- Plain Black Smart Leather/Leather-Like Shoes (trainers are not permitted)

Optional:

- Black V-neck Sweater
- Plain Black Belt

Religious Observances:

- Students whose religion requires them to wear a head scarf or cap are permitted to do so and we ask this is plain (not patterned) black.



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Coats & Bags

Generic School Backpack

All students will be expected to carry a backpack or large tote bag to ensure that they have all their equipment and PE kit. Handbags/man bags are not acceptable school bags.

Compulsory



Coats



Outer coats are permitted over your blazer but no hoodies.

PE Kit

PE Kit We have a school PE kit which your child will be expected to bring with them on PE and Dance days.



Unisex branded polo shirt

Unisex Qtr Zip Top

Plain Black Training Pant

Generic Plain Black Training Shorts

Plain Black leggings

Compulsory



Trainers suitable for use on the sand-based AstroTurf.

Fashion trainers/pumps are not suitable for PE

Optional



Generic Sports Socks

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Standards of Appearance

At ICA we expect a high standard of dress and appearance. This not only applies to your uniform but also includes things like hair and jewellery.

Hair, Make-up and Jewellery

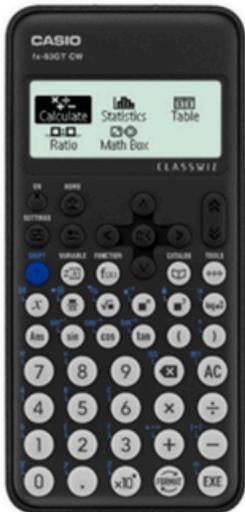
- Natural hair colour
- Neat in appearance
- Navy or black hair bobbles / clips
- Make-up should not be worn
- One pair of stud earrings only
- A wrist watch - no smart watches

Unacceptable:

- No False Eyelashes, False Nails, Nail Varnish or Make-up. No Piercings other than a single pair of stud earrings. No facial, Belly or Tongue piercings. No Shaved Heads, Patterns, Hair Extensions or Unnatural Hair Colours.



School Equipment



1 Ruler



2 Black Pens

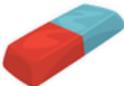


2 Purple Pens



2 Pencils

1 Ruler



1 Eraser



1 Pencil Case

Knowledge Organiser

Students will be provided with a knowledge organiser at the start of the year. This contains useful information for all of their subjects. It is part of students' equipment and should be kept in bags to use in lessons and at home every day.

- Scientific Calculator
- Pencil Case
- 2 x Black Pens (Not Blue)
- 2 x Purple Pens
- 2 x Pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser

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Step 6 Connect with the ICA Community!



Visit Our StepUp page

Keep up to date with new events and key dates

Scan the QR Code



Book a School Tour

We are proud of our ICA community and encourage parents to visit us during the school day to experience this first hand.

Contact Miss Salt at transitions@irlamandcadishead.org.uk and we would be delighted to offer you a school tour during the school day.

Follow our socials

Follow our social accounts to stay in the loop with everything going on at ICA and within our community.



Irlam & Cadishead Academy



_icacademy



icaacademy.bsky.social



Irlam & Cadishead Academy



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Year 6 Transition Club

For
Year 6
Students

Fun Activities to
Prepare Your Child
for Secondary School!



Every Thursday

at Irlam & Cadishead Academy
from 4pm - 5pm

Activities:

- Dodgeball
- Football
- Rounders
- Science
- Maths
- Art
- Familiarisation Activities

**No Need
to Book!!**



For more information
contact Miss Salt on;

transitions@irlamandcadishead.org.uk

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FAQs



What time does school start & finish?

Officially, school starts at 8:30am. However, students are expected to be in line up on the 'MUGA' for 8:25am.



When does my child start school?

Year 7 students will start school on Friday 4th September 2026. All other year groups will return on Monday 7th September 2026.

What entrance does my child use?

All students will use the Student entrance, located at the back of the school via MacDonald Road.

How are form groups decided, will my child be with friends?

Miss Salt will meet with the primary school teachers gather information on each student. We aim to ensure students have at least one or two friends within their form.



How do I pay for my child's school dinners?

You can send cash in with your child where they can access the 'top up' machines located around the building or you can add money via our online platform. More information around this will follow at a later date.

Can my child try on uniform before I buy?

The uniform supplier will be in ICA on Sunday 26th July where you can try on and purchase uniform. More information around this event will follow at a later date.

