



Friday 4 September

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you and your families had a restful and enjoyable six-week break. As we begin the new school year, I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome your child back to school as they embark on an important milestone — Year 10.

Year 10 marks a significant stage in your child's educational journey, as they begin their GCSE and BTEC courses. These next two years are crucial for laying the foundations for their future success, not only academically but also in terms of their personal growth and development. I have every confidence that, with your support and the dedication of our fantastic teaching staff, your child will rise to the challenges ahead and make the most of the opportunities this year presents.

This year, I will be encouraging students to take more responsibility for their learning and behaviour as they continue to mature into young adults. We will provide the guidance and support needed to ensure that students become increasingly organised, punctual and fully engaged with their lessons, while continuing to demonstrate our CORE values. As role models for the younger year groups, they will also be expected to contribute positively to our school community.

Our Year 10 assembly this week focused on making a positive start to Year 10 and understanding the expectations that come with being a GCSE student. We reinforced the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality, positive behaviour, organisation and, importantly, taking increasing responsibility for their own learning and progress. The habits students establish now will have a significant impact on their success throughout Year 10 and beyond.

A particular focus this year will be supporting students as they continue to work towards their GCSE Religious Studies examinations. Students will continue to develop their subject knowledge and examination skills through their RE lessons, with further preparation and revision taking place throughout the year. We are also planning an RE GCSE mock examination in October, which will give students an important opportunity to experience the examination process, identify areas for development and build their confidence. We encourage students to take their learning seriously from the outset and to develop good revision habits rather than leaving preparation until the final stages of the course.

Alongside their academic studies, Tutor Time and PSHE will continue to play an important role in supporting students' wider development. Tutor time provides students with a consistent point of contact and allows tutors to monitor their wellbeing, attendance, organisation and progress, while helping them to develop the skills and confidence needed as they move through their GCSE years. Through our PSHE curriculum, students will explore a range of topics relating to personal development, wellbeing, relationships, future aspirations and preparation for life beyond school. These sessions provide valuable opportunities for students to discuss issues that affect young people and develop the knowledge and skills needed to make informed and responsible decisions.

Your child's tutor should be your first point of contact if you have any questions or concerns. Contact details for your child's tutor can be found in the [Meet the Team](#) section of our website.

We are also beginning to look ahead to Work Experience, which will take place in June 2027. This will be an important opportunity for students to gain an insight into the world of work, develop valuable employability skills and begin to make connections between their interests, strengths and future

career pathways. Students will be prepared and supported throughout the process through their tutors, assemblies and our Careers Advisers. Further information will be shared with students and parents as arrangements develop, but we would encourage students to begin thinking about the types of workplace and careers that may interest them.

Our careers provision will continue to develop throughout Year 10, helping students to understand the links between their GCSE subjects, their skills and abilities, and their future opportunities. Students will continue to explore careers through tutor time, PSHE, assemblies, subject lessons and dedicated careers activities. They will have opportunities to develop their understanding of different employment pathways, transferable skills, interview skills, Post-16 options and the wider world of work. Subject teachers will also continue to highlight careers and real-life applications linked to their curriculum, helping students to understand how the knowledge and skills they develop in school can support their future aspirations.

A reminder that curriculum information for all subjects is available on our website under the Learn and Curriculum section. The [Learning Journeys](#) provide an overview of the knowledge and skills students will develop across their subjects and can be a useful resource for parents and carers when discussing learning and revision at home.

We would also like to remind parents and carers that important information regarding your child's attendance, behaviour, timetable, homework and academic progress can be accessed via [Go4Schools \(G4S\)](#). The Digital Learning Hub also provides access to a range of resources to support students with their learning. We encourage parents and carers to check these platforms regularly so that you can stay informed about your child's progress and support them effectively at home.

Finally, we are pleased to support Race for Life, which will take place on Friday 25 September during Period 5. Students are able to wear a pink accessory on the day to raise awareness and show their support for this incredible cause. We hope that as many students as possible will get involved and help us to make the event a positive and memorable part of the school year.

As always, I am here to support your child every step of the way. The move into Year 10 can sometimes feel daunting, particularly as GCSE examinations begin to feel more immediate, but our staff, tutors and pastoral team are fully committed to ensuring that every student receives the academic and emotional support they need to succeed.

If you or your child ever feel uncertain or concerned about their progress, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We want every student to feel supported, valued and confident as they navigate the challenges and opportunities that Year 10 brings.

We are all excited to see what this year holds for your child, and I have no doubt that with hard work, determination and support, they will achieve great things. Let's work together to ensure that Year 10 is a positive, productive and successful year for them.

Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable, and I look forward to continuing our strong partnership throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to an exciting and successful year ahead.

Kind regards

Mr Royle
Year 10 Lead