

18 September 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian

2024/25 Year 11 Welcome Letter

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome your child to their final academic year at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading. It goes without saying that the year ahead is the most important yet and with this in mind, it's imperative that students return rested and prepared.

Attendance and Punctuality

Particularly in Year 11, we ask that students take full responsibility for their punctuality to Tutor, and thereby – school. With their GCSE examinations set to start at 9am and preparatory sessions beginning from 8am, we urge students to start the academic year as they mean to go on. Lateness to line-up, is lateness to school.

It is imperative that students are **in line-up daily at 8.40am**. Students need to be on site by 8.35am at the latest, with those needing to go to their lockers expected to have arrived even earlier to have ample time to organise themselves. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they are present and punctual to hear key communication – pastoral and curricular.

Should your child be unwell, **absences must be reported by 8.30am** to ensure they are coded correctly. These should be reported to the MER Attendance Officer, and not to your child's Form Tutor as outlined in the school's policy.

Uniform & Equipment

Pride in uniform reflects pride in oneself and all students are expected to wear full school uniform on return in September. As a school we are also keen to ensure our students arrive to every lesson prepared to engage in their work. The first step to success comes from being equipped for learning. This means that students are required to arrive every day with the equipment necessary for their lessons. A full uniform and equipment list was sent to you last week and can be found [here](#).

Pastoral Team

I would like to take this opportunity to confirm the Year 11 Pastoral Team for the new academic year. In the first instance, please contact your child's Form Tutor for Pastoral Support. Should further support be necessary, enquiries may be directed to me as your child's Head of Year. All correspondence can be sent to MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org.

- **Head of Year 11:** Mrs Cotton
- **KS4 Phase Leads:** Ms Khan and Mr Saunders



Tutors

- G1: Mr Bish
- G2: Ms Nakimbugwe and Dr Diriyai
- P1: Miss Wildman and Miss Trafford
- P2: Mr Hetherington
- T1: Miss Baxter
- T2: Miss Murphy and Mr Butchers

Key Dates

The following dates will be important for both you and your child in the weeks and months to come. PPEs for many, will inform predicted grades on their applications for Post 16 education; it is important that students prepare for these learning and progress checkpoints, taking the year seriously from the outset and working consistently throughout the academic year.

- Year 11 Information Evening: 3rd October
- PPE 1: w/c 4th November
- Year 11 Report 1: 11th December
- Year 11 Progress Evening: 12th December
- PPE2: w/c 3rd February
- Year 11 Information Evening 2: 25th March

We intend to have two Information Evenings this academic year and will communicate details in due course.

Mindset

As we enter the final year, I would like for all parents to encourage their children to adopt a growth mindset. A growth mindset is resilient; it is open to challenges, welcomes feedback and seeks new opportunities. It is more difficult to adopt and sustain than a fixed mindset, but it is the perspective and attitude that will lead them to success.

We want all students to aim to be **MER STARS** and **MER DREAMERS**. Students will be able to do this through aiming high in lessons, working together to support each other and being inclusive.

Every student has time to improve, time to consolidate and time to secure and, with the encouragement of school and home, I firmly believe all Year 11 will leave with a wonderfully bright future ahead. Please communicate with the school over the months to come and we will do our best to support your child – personally and academically.

Wishing all students the very best as they write their final chapters at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Cotton
Head of Year 11

