



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL IN READING

Headteacher: Will Graham

BA Ed (Hons), NPQH

81 Crescent Road, Reading, RG1 5SL  
0118 966 8065  
meroffice@maidenerleghtrust.org  
www.maidenerleghschoolreading.co.uk  
@MESReading

26 February 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

## Ramadan 2025

Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, is expected to begin on the evening of Friday 28 February. We are aware that some of our students may be fasting on days when they are in school and to support them, we will attempt to locate alternative space for them to use whilst observing the fast. This may not be possible every day, due to pressure on room space and the need for staff to be available to supervise. We will, however, do our very best to facilitate this. We expect students who use this space to use the time for contemplation, reflection, reading or prayer. Outside space is always available for students to use.

We expect that any student who does use this area at lunchtime, to do so respectfully. We would ask that you discuss this with your child in advance and we reserve the right to withdraw this facility to any student who we feel does not respect the space or disrupts this time for others. In this situation, students will be supervised with all other students in the main dining area.

For students who are fasting, we would ask that they eat well, with a balanced meal when breaking the fast and during the pre-dawn meal and have plenty to drink when fast is broken. Students should avoid over-exertion, especially if the weather gets warm, and should take periods of rest before and after school.

The Muslim Council of Britain has produced a useful guide, supported by the NHS, which can be found here: [Ramadan: A Guide to Healthy Fasting](#). Please note that in the event of a student becoming dehydrated, we will give water to fasting students. Although some Muslims believe that this technically breaks the fast, it can be compensated for later, and the health and wellbeing of students is always our priority.

***Students who observe the fast will be expected to fully participate in the curriculum. This includes practical work in music, drama and PE lessons; the PE team will be mindful of those students fasting and adjust activities accordingly.***

Finally, at the conclusion of Ramadan, the festival of Eid al-Fitr is celebrated. If parents decide that their child should not attend school on this day for the purpose of religious observance, then parents are required to inform the school [using this link here](#) prior to Eid al-Fitr. Please also note that a maximum of one day of absence will be authorised and we would not expect student absence for Eid to extend more than one day. Most guidance on the date of Eid al-Fitr this year suggests that it will take place on Sunday 30/Monday 31 March 2025.

Kind regards,

**Will Graham**

Headteacher

Maiden Erlegh School in Reading



Aim High



Be Inclusive



Work Together