



Monday 12th September 2022

Year 9

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our students returning from the summer holidays. I hope this time allowed for rest, recovery and a much-needed re-set after a demanding academic year. The first of our virtues that we will focus on this year is love of learning. Students will reflect on this in collective worship and tutor reflections with specific input on CAFOD, One World Week and Social Justice.

Year 9 return ready to embark on an important year academically, in which they will select their GCSE's and have the first opportunity to mold their future curriculum to their personal interests. They have had an assembly about the importance of building firm foundations as they prepare for their GCSE studies in future years. So far Year 9 have risen to the challenge, and have made positive first impressions on their new teachers and tutors.

Last summer we wrote to parents and carers reminding them of the standards we expect our students to meet day to day. These include fully meeting our uniform expectations, good organisation, behaviour and engagement. It is also a good time to remind parents and carers about the importance of regular attendance to school, where missing just 10% of the school year can lead to a drop of 1 whole grade at GCSE due to missed content. A reminder that our policies can be found on our school website <https://st-edwards.poole.sch.uk/>. if you have any queries about our high expectations If your child is unwell, please remember to contact the school so that we know they are safely at home. We ask for your support in securing these standards so that we can work as 'one' to support the students in their journey through St Edward's.

In the weeks ahead there will be the opportunity for the 'meet the tutor' evening, where an early consultation with tutors can help in the smooth transition to the start of the year. This year we are consulting with parents on whether they would prefer this meeting to be held online via the parents evening portal, or whether there would be a preference for a face to face meeting, now that we have moved past Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions. An opportunity for parents to share their voice on this can be found by following this link, which will close on Friday 16th September. <https://forms.office.com/r/WfkskiaQ8L>

Finally, I would like to advise parents and carers that we will be removing the staggered end of the day timings, and the school will now finish at 15:15 for all students as before the Covid-19 restrictions.

Yours sincerely,

Luke Kemish

KS3 Director of Learning