



An All-through Co-operative School
Carlton Avenue East, Wembley HA9 8NA
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10th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have all had a good week so far. Our week here at school has been purposeful, calm and really quite exciting with all of our students back to school and working hard. I have spent some time walking around during lessons and talking to our students at break and lunch time, and it has been really pleasing to see how everyone has returned to school.

We have really started to focus on attendance and punctuality this week. One of our main approaches to improving punctuality to school has been to start the day with period 1 at the Upper School, as opposed to registration first. We really must ask that our students arrive by 8.35am in readiness to learn by 8.40am when lessons begin. I know that Carlton Avenue East and the surrounding areas can be a little congested in the morning and this may make dropping your son/daughter off difficult at times, so please be mindful of this and try to ensure that enough time is allowed in the morning so that your son/daughter is not late. We feel that it is really important that no one misses out on valuable learning time at school. I would also like to ask that at the end of the day, all parents are mindful of our residents and park safely, avoiding blocking driveways.

We are also really pleased to announce that we will resume our breakfast service from 8am every day in the school canteen, as well as the LRC being open for students who may wish to come to school early to undertake private study, or use the time to complete homework. We hope that these two opportunities will support you with any issues regarding punctuality.

As we have now all returned to school, it is also important that attendance is maintained to the high level we expect. Being in school, learning and making progress is incredibly important. As an example, if a student has 90% attendance from year 1 all the way through to Year 13, they would actually miss 247 school days. This equates to missing out on over **one and a quarter** academic school years. That statistic is very frightening indeed. I know 90% seems to be a high figure but it actually means that a student would miss one day every two weeks, and the impact on learning and education would be very significant.

During this week, there have been meetings taking place with our parents and new students joining reception, their first day with us is on Monday. I know that for many of our students this will be a mixture of excitement and nerves. Needless to say, our fantastic team at the Lower School will be ready to welcome you all into the Preston Manor Family and I will be there to meet as many of you as I can. I would also like to say a huge thank you to our parents of Year 7 that joined us yesterday evening for the Meet the Tutor event. It is an evening that I always enjoy as it gives parents the chance to find out what has been happening in the first few weeks of term.

On **Thursday 23rd September**, we are hosting our annual **Open Evening** where we open our doors to prospective Year 6 students and parents. Although we will not be holding the



presentations in the main hall for safety reasons, we will still be opening our doors so that people can visit the school and see all of our amazing subject areas, and have the opportunity to speak to our specialist staff and wonderful students. The event will start at **6pm** and there will also be the opportunity to meet myself and the Leadership Team at the Upper School. Our **Open Mornings on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th September** between **9am and 11am** are going ahead as planned, so that people can see our school in full action.

It is hard to believe that next week we will be in the middle of September already and we look forward to seeing the smiling faces of our students continue. Wishing you all a restful weekend and please take care.

Yours faithfully



Mr R Denial
Executive Headteacher