

27th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

This is the start of a new school year and a fresh start for me. I'm the new Executive Principal and having the honour of leading The Deanery into a new era. The school has been welcomed into [The Park Academies Trust](#), many of you will know of our sister schools within the Trust, and already we are seeing the benefits of belonging to such a supportive and effective organisation. The Trust also welcomed our new CEO, Gemma Piper, at the beginning of term and she has already addressed staff, sharing the Trust vision and expectations going forward.

Our school is on an improvement journey and we are all determined to raise standards and see tangible improvements. We all now have a shared purpose; to help our pupils achieve their best and given that we have dedicated staff and our students have lots of potential, our plans will mean we get results. At the end of last term, the school received a monitoring visit by a team of Ofsted inspectors. This was not an inspection to give a new rating but it was more of a 'check up' to see how improvement plans being put in place were going. I'm pleased to say that the school was judged to have taken 'appropriate action' to bring about improvement in a number of significant areas.

Most importantly Ofsted confirmed that our rapid improvement plan is well considered and focused on the key areas required. The report is attached for you to read.

In addition, I would like to outline some of the further developments that your children are benefitting from already.

There was a lot of preparation for the start of the year. Significantly, I am very pleased to share that we are fully staffed meaning pupils are taught by specialist teachers in every subject. This year started with two full days of training in the new approach to high standards in the classroom through 'The Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme'. We are confident that this will ensure there is consistency across the staff in their pedagogical approach to teaching and learning, something we will continually work on to embed our TPAT Learning Principles for success. I'd like us all to thank our staff for their appreciation of the hard work ahead of us and also for their commitment to see rapid improvements.

Although the school has joined a new trust it still retains its Christian character as a Church of England School. To ensure we are addressing the matter of quality of personal development and incorporating the values of service, wisdom, hope and resilience, we have introduced Deanery PROUD. I am sure you have heard your child mention it already as this set of principles is the basis of building our school culture. You will also hear me and the staff across the school referring to this all the time as the core foundation of how we behave.

Literacy remains a priority and we continue to develop our approach to reading support on a number of different levels. Having run reading tests for all pupils, we have implemented tried and tested programmes



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such as The Fresh Start reading and Lexia to enable them to make rapid progress. Pupils will now all engage with a varied diet of texts through our 'year group readers' programme, increasing the time pupils spend reading, and pupils are engaging with our 'Accelerated Reader programme' to track their personal reading progress.

We are also working with our partner schools in the Trust to review our 'Values in Practice' curriculum, to ensure pupils are taught well and cover the required material in personal development, relationships and careers. I am confident that with this comprehensive curriculum, pupils will build on their understanding of the importance of British Values and protected characteristics.

I am pleased to be able to report that the start of school has been very smooth. I would like to commend our pupils, as since the beginning of term, they have adjusted well, following the new uniform expectations, the change to the school day and homework policy. Thank you for your support as parents and carers in these matters, this has enabled pupils to start to get a taste of what being PROUD of yourself and your school means.

Lastly, I would like to congratulate the outgoing cohort of Yr11, who were the first Deanery students to sit their GCSE examinations. Many pupils celebrated their successes, achieving grades which have enabled them to move onto their next steps. There were some outstanding performances with a number of pupils achieving a significant number of 7-9 grades across the range of subjects. We hope to build on these successes and we can see already that the new Yr11 are ready for the challenge.

If you have any questions regarding the Ofsted monitoring report or some of the advances we have made, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Our pupils at The Deanery school deserve the very best teaching and character development opportunities. I am very much relishing the journey ahead working with yourselves and your children and I am anticipating informing you of our young peoples' many successes as a result of the high quality of education we provide.

Yours sincerely

Mr Young
Executive Principal



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