

8th September 2023

### Dear Parent/Carer

After saying goodbye to our students on the last day of the module in the pouring rain, it was lovely to welcome them back to the Academy in glorious sunshine. I do hope you and your family have found some time to relax this summer and your children have enjoyed their first week of this new academic year back at the Academy. It was fantastic to see our students enjoying their lessons, especially in the new Arts and Drama block; verbal feedback has certainly been positive. Work continues on the developments in the Technology area.

# **Staffing Changes**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new staff, alongside their respective departments. I know our students and yourselves will welcome them and look forward to working with them all over the coming months and years.

Mr K Alston - Mathematics Mr E Amoh - Business/Economics
Miss M Arnold - Dance Miss L Bailey – SCITT - Science
Mr T Bayston – History Mrs S Bilbie - Y11 Pastoral Manager

Miss R Brown-Duthie – SCITT Art Mr A Collison - PE
Mrs E Charlton – Geography Miss D Dunne - SCITT - Mathematics

Mrs K Evans – Science Mrs S Galjaard - Learning Strategies Assistant
Miss L Hammatt - Science Miss F Hart – Learning Strategies Assistant

Mr A Kennerley – SCITT - Technology Miss S Kim - Learning Strategies Assistant

Mr T Leatherland - Technology Mr J Schofield – SCITT ICT
Mrs R Scrupps - Learning Strategies Assistant Miss C Straub – SCITT - English

Mr A Thompson - Mathematics Mr A Willetts - Science

We also have a number of existing staff, who start the academic year with a different role after securing promotion during the last academic year.

Mrs B Coupland - Head of English

Mrs L Hanson - Head of Science

Miss J Bosier - Head of Biology

Mr W Crawford - Head of Physics

Mrs C Erskine - Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Mrs A Rees - Second in charge, Head of Modern Foreign Languages

Mr C Donaldson - Head of IT/Computing

Mr G Jones - Technology Lead for Assessment and Curriculum

Miss S Nuttall - Technology Lead for Feedback and Links

Miss L Bellamy - Head of Year 11

Miss H Masterman - Enrichment Leader

Miss A Marshall - Enrichment Leader

Miss C Richardson - Learning Strategies' Coordinator

We also welcome back Mrs N Brown (nee Keeler), Teacher of Mathematics from maternity leave. At the start of October, we also welcome back Mrs L Smith (Head of RE and Social Sciences) full time from her maternity leave. Currently, Dr. K Stephens will continue to teach Mrs L Smith's lessons from Monday to Thursday throughout September.

**Headteacher**: Mrs J Hopkinson

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Sadly, Mr Smith (Head of Year 8 in 2022/23) has had to undergo an operation and so will not be in the Academy for at least this module. Therefore, Mrs R Curran, will become Head of Year 9 in his absence. Mrs Curran has a significant amount of previous experience within this pastoral role. As at the end of last year, Mrs R Caig will support the year group in her Pastoral Manager role. In Drama, Mr Craven will teach most of the Keys Stage 4 and 5 lessons with Miss Shaw, a drama specialist teacher, covering the remaining drama lessons from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. I know you will join me in wishing Mr Smith a speedy recovery.

#### RAAC

I am confident you will have seen recent media coverage regarding the Department for Education (DfE) and its messages about Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). The Academy has been following, and will continue to follow, all guidance issued by the DfE on this subject, and we are able to reassure you that no RAAC has been identified on our site at this current time.

## Satchel One

Next week we will send details of how-to login to Satchel One for parents and carers of Year 7 and new Year 12 students. If any other parents or carers are struggling to login, please contact Main Reception on <a href="mailto:generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk">generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk</a>.

## New Sixth Form Reception and the end of the academy day.

We now have a new sixth form reception area and entrance at the top of Urban Street next to the student entrance gate. After the end of the academy day, students will be able to leave through sixth form reception up until 4.30pm if they have had clubs or activities. After 4.30pm, all students still on site will have to leave/be collected from the Cross O'Cliff entrance to the Academy. Please can we also remind you that if a student does not have a club or activity after the end of the academy day, they should have left the site by 3.30pm. If they are waiting for a lift or a late bus, they should go to homework club.

#### Uniform

Following the uniform checks this week we wanted to thank parents in supporting us to maintain our high standards of uniform with the students looking very smart and wearing the uniform with pride. If you require any support with sourcing uniform please contact: uniform@prioryacademies.co.uk

## School Buses

We were made aware late in the summer holidays of some amendments to bus routes that service LSST, operated by both Stagecoach and Black Cat Travel. The 642 route has been discontinued, the 643 route has been amended, the 551 route will now depart LSST at the earlier time of 1545 and there is a new route operated by Black Cat Travel, the "School Lynx 2". All timetables are on the Academy website under the "Parents -> Bus Information" tab and should you have any questions about routes operated by either company, please contact them directly.

#### SLT Clinic

As we do each year, we would like to make you aware of our SLT clinics, from 3.30pm, which are staged across the year. We offer these as an opportunity to raise any issues, or indeed celebrate any positives, which may not have already been dealt with by our other leaders and staff. This year the dates will be 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023, 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024 and 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024

We very much look forward to working with you all over the coming year to ensure your child achieves their very best.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Hopkinson Headteacher