

5th September 2025

## Dear Parent/Carer

I do hope you and your family have found some time to relax this summer and your children have enjoyed their first few days of this new academic year being back at the Academy. It has been lovely to welcome our students back, although we had hoped for slightly better weather this week!

Although there have been no major redevelopments this summer across the Academy students will see significant changes to our gym with respect to new equipment and a new layout. One of our tennis courts have been resurfaced to allow students to play netball safely and against local teams and students will have noticed some rooms have been redecorated.

In August, our students achieved highly in their GCE and GCSE examination results. We are extremely proud of them all and wish them all the very best of luck as they begin the next stage of their journey.

### **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.

## **Teaching Staff**

Miss R Brown Duthie Teacher of Art
Mr N Neamtu Teacher of English
Mr Z Allen Teacher of English
Mr S Wilcock Head of English

Mr W Eastham Teacher of Design and Technology

## **Support Staff**

Miss E Hukin **Business Administrative Apprentice** Miss L Foley **Business Administrative Apprentice** Mr C Wilson **Curriculum Logistics Assistant** Miss E Urquhart Learning Strategies Assistant Mrs M Rees Drummond Learning Strategies Assistant Miss C Ryland Learning Strategies Assistant Miss L Carmouche Learning Strategies Assistant Miss T Rose **Learning Strategies Coordinator** Mrs A Cunningham **Pastoral Support Mentor** 

**Headteacher**: Mrs J Hopkinson





Miss J Leonard Teaching Assistant Apprentice

Miss C Hunt Technology Technician

# **Trainee Teachers (SCITTs)**

Mr T Marshall Design & Technology

Miss K Jackson English
Miss M Connor Geography
Miss E Keogh History
Mr D Ryland Mathematics
Mr C Smithers Physical Education

Mrs T Edmonds Science
Miss K O'Toole 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.

Miss L Dowse Learning Strategies Coordinator

Mrs S Guest Pastoral Manager

I am sure you will also join me in congratulating Miss M Bush and Miss J Bosier who both got married over the summer. Their names going forward will be Mrs M Woods and Mrs J Redeyoff.

## Satchel One

We continue to use Satchel: One as our primary platform for managing homework, behaviour, achievement badges, and academy notices. For those who are new to our school community, login details will be sent to you shortly so you can register and begin using the application to support your child(ren) in their education. If you are an existing parent or carer and have not yet connected to your child's account, please contact our general enquiries to request your unique access code.

#### **GDPR**

As part of our commitment to educating students on responsible digital behaviour, we ask for your support in reinforcing our expectations around mobile 'phone use. Specifically, students must not take photographs or record videos anywhere on the academy site, including before school (08:00–08:30) and after school. With your support, we can help students develop safe and respectful habits which support their learning and wellbeing.

#### Uniform

Following the uniform checks this week we want 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. As a reminder our uniform list is available on the website here: <a href="https://documents.org/linearing-new-norm">
 OC1D30FA12EEC61CAFA65C7BF2D5BC68.pdf</a>
Please check this carefully to ensure your child/children continue to comply with our uniform expectations and please contact us if you have any questions about an item of uniform.

If you require any support with sourcing uniform please contact: uniform@prioryacademies.co.uk

## **School Buses/Roadworks**

The same range of bus services as last year continue to run - <u>The Priory Academy LSST - School Bus Information</u> (priorylsst.co.uk)

There will be some changes to some services at times due to the Cadent works being carried out from Cross O'Cliff Hill to the A607 over the coming weeks. Correspondence was sent out on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September about current changes to certain services and we will endeavour to keep you informed of any future changes to these. Further to the correspondence sent out on Tuesday, a reminder that the Cadent works on Cross O'Cliff Hill will last for approximately 17 weeks. Throughout this process traffic management controls will be in place whilst the works are ongoing starting with the current one-way closure northbound on Cross O'Cliff Hill between the

junctions of Eleanor Close and St Catherine's. In short this means that cars can come up Cross O'Cliff Hill from St Catherine's as normal but are not able to go beyond Eleanor Close going down the hill. Therefore, all cars coming on to the academy site will have to turn right up the hill on leaving the site. In light of the traffic congestion the road closure will create we would be grateful if you could consider alternatives to dropping your child off in the morning on site and similarly coming on to the academy site to collect them at the end of the day for the next three weeks.

## Carparking

Many thanks for your cooperation with carparking on our site, both at the start and end of our academy day. It is worth reminding students that our site is extremely busy, so if they are being dropped off at the allocated spot in the mornings at the Cross O'Cliff entrance, then they ought to use the crossing from reception, refrain from using devices and watch for moving vehicles at all times. In this way everyone can stay safe.

In the same manner after school, similar precautions should be taken and vigilance maintained. If you are bringing your car onto the school site, particularly at the end of the day, and are stationary in the car park, we ask that out of consideration for our neighbours, staff and students, but also each other, that you turn off your engine whilst you wait. We are mindful of the effects of noise and local pollution, but together we can aim to protect our immediate environment

### The end of the academy day

We have introduced QR codes at all after academy day activities/clubs/classes to help us to better track which students are still on site. Alongside this our expectations for students after the end of the academy day are that

- Students should have left the academy site by 3.30pm if they don't have an after-school activity and they are not waiting for a lift or bus.
- Students who are waiting for the late bus or to be collected by a parent after 3.30pm should go to homework club.
- At the end of any after academy day activity/clubs/classes students should leave the academy site promptly unless they are waiting for a lift in which case, they should wait by the bus shelters close to the main Cross O'Cliff Hill entrance.

### Senior Leadership Team Consultation Evenings

The senior leadership team are available on specified late afternoons throughout the year to offer a forum to discuss aspects which parents/carers may wish to review beyond the scope of the normal channels of staff/parent communication. The slots are staggered throughout the year: 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025; 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026, and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2026. If you wish to avail yourself of this opportunity, please contact our reception on <a href="mailto:generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk">generalenquiries@priorylsst.co.uk</a>, outlining your topic for discussion.

We thank you for your ongoing support with our high expectations around attendance, behaviour, uniform and conduct. We do believe by us working together your child will achieve their very best this academic year.

Yours faithfully

Mrs J Hopkinson Headteacher

J. Hoplunson