

## Dear Parents/Carers

May I take this opportunity to either welcome you or welcome you back to the Priory Academy LSST for the academic year of 2019/20. I do hope you all have enjoyed a delightful summer in between the sunshine and showers. As always, it has been lovely listening this week to the many adventures our students have undertaken during the summer months.

Staff have once again been busy throughout the six weeks, especially the site and administrative staff. It is lovely to come back to our new refurbished areas in the Mathematics and Modern Foreign Languages departments; the developments really provide our students with some inspirational learning spaces. Our refurbishment work continues this term with plans in place to extend it to our science facilities later this academic year.

As many of you are aware, this summer saw students in both Years 11 and 13 undertake their external examinations. Hard work, dedication and commitment from both students, staff, parents and carers paid off with numerous students achieving outstanding results. At A Level we saw an improvement from last year with 27% of the grades awarded being A\* or A grades and with nearly 90% of students in year 13 successfully moving on to Higher education or apprenticeships this September. At GCSE, around 70% of the grades awarded were at Grade 5 or above and three out of five students achieving the challenging 'Ebacc' combination of academic GCSE passes, compared to a national rate of one in four students. My sincere congratulations to all students and I am confident you will join me in wishing those students who now leave the Academy our best wishes as they begin the next stage in their life's journey.

As the new term begins I would like to welcome and introduce to you the following staff who join the Priory Academy LSST in either a teaching or support capacity:

Mrs J Cochrane Science
Mr D Hill PE
Miss G Iuliano Maths
Ms C Wilton MFL

Mr J Audis Geography, NQT

Mr C Donaldson

Miss E Haigh

Miss E Kirk

Mrs J Thorburn

Miss D Wood

ICT, NQT

English, NQT

MrL, NQT

MFL, NQT

Science, NQT

**Headteacher**: Mrs J Hopkinson

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Mrs S Davey MFL, SCITT
Miss C Ellerby History, SCITT
Miss R Hale Geography, SCITT
Miss E Phynn Science, SCITT

Mr M Parker Learning Strategies
Mrs N Oliver Learning Strategies

I would also like to welcome and introduce to you our new Chair of Governors, Mr G Johns and Vice Chair, Ms V Townshend whose details can be found on our website.

At this time of year we remind each other of basic expectations and routines which we have at the Academy. To this end uniform checks have taken place this week for all year groups and it is pleasing to see the vast majority of students looking incredibly smart and I thank you for your support in maintaining the high standards of appearance of our students. Please continue to support us in this through following the uniform requirements on the website under the Uniform page of the Parents' section of the website. As we start the new academic year can I please also emphasise the importance of punctuality and arriving at the Academy on time each day. Students can go into tutor rooms from 8.20am and must be there for registration by 8.30am to carry out a range of activities and receive important notices. To support this, as from Monday 9th September, both the gates on the main site and the Sixth Form entrance will be closing and locking at 8.30am as students should be in the Academy by this time. From this time those students arriving after 8.30am will be issued with a break time detention for that day with a member of pastoral staff to discuss the issue. It is also important to note that at the end of the Academy day students should only be on site after 3.05pm if they are attending a supervised club or activity. There is a supervised after school study session for Year 7 and 8 students in U24 and for Year 9, 10 and 11 students in H2 from 3.05pm until 4.00pm which students are able to attend. Due to safeguarding reasons, when collecting your children from the Academy, please either wait in your car in the tennis courts or outside the Academy grounds.

In order to comply with The Priory Federation Safeguarding Policy, we require all staff, Sixth Form students and visitors to be identifiable whilst on the academy site. Sixth Form students have been issued with yellow lanyards. It forms part of their uniform. Sixth Form students are required to wear their lanyard around their neck whilst on the academy site at all times so they can be identified easily as an academy student. It is also necessary for all Sixth Form students to sign out at reception if they leave site at any point during the day.

If you use the Urban Street pedestrian entrance (back gate) to drop off/collect your child from the Academy, please be aware that parking is very limited and as this is not a through road, turning around in this area is difficult. For the safety of our students, please avoid turning on the zebra crossing. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

As always my colleagues and I will keep you updated throughout the academic year. All Heads of Year have produced an Information Booklet for their students which is on the Pastoral and Safeguarding page of the Parents' section of the website. Year 7 parents and carers also received a copy of this at the information evening in July. Please can I encourage you to read this as it provides some up to date detailed information on how to support your child over the course of this year with some basic reminders such as how and who to contact at the Academy. However, for the most important and up to

date news stories please can I remind you to view <a href="https://www.priorylsst.co.uk/">https://www.priorylsst.co.uk/</a> and then the News tab. Alternatively you can use Twitter, @PrioryLSST, or Facebook, <a href="https://www.facebook.com/priorylsst">https://www.facebook.com/priorylsst</a>.

Also on the website, you will be able to find details of the Priory Association, who last year organised a very successful summer ball at the Hilton Hotel in Lincoln, organise and lead an annual quiz for all and support many academy events. The Priory Association is the academy charity and Parent Teacher Association for the Priory Academy LSST. As a PTA they try to support as many extra-curricular activities as possible for the benefit of all attending the Academy. Their simple aim is to raise money for, and spend it on, activities that benefit the children at the Academy outside of their normal school curriculum. If you would like to be part of this enthusiastic and much appreciated group of parents/carers then you are most welcome to attend their first meeting on Monday 23rd September at 7.15pm in L15.

In order to maintain and enhance communication between the Academy and yourselves please do not hesitate to contact the academy staff should you need any advice or have any concerns relating to your child. Often your child's form tutor is the best person to speak with in the first instance. I look forward to continuing to work with you all to ensure we achieve the very best for our students during this academic year.

Yours sincerely

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Mrs Jane Hopkinson Headteacher