



1st October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to welcome everyone to a new term at Wexham and especially all those joining us for the very first time.

I have been particularly impressed with the behavior and attitude of students since we returned in September. Of particular note is the high standard of uniform and I would like to thank all parents for your support and dedication in making sure your children leave for school properly dressed each morning. Wearing full uniform creates a more focused learning environment and therefore I urge all parents and students to continue with the extremely high standards that have been set.

Open Evening

The School's Open Evening for prospective students and parents will take place on Tuesday 2nd October between 5.30 and 7.30pm. As staff and very large numbers of students will be in school considerably late on this day the School will open slightly later than normal on Wednesday 3rd October as previously advertised. Students should report for registration at 9.30am.

Start of the School Day

The School day starts at 8.40am. Students should be onsite before this time. It is pleasing to see the numbers of students that are late in the morning has reduced from this time last year. Being punctual means the day starts positive. Students and parents will have noticed two new large cycle storage areas have recently been installed due to increased numbers of students cycling to school, which is very pleasing. Two years ago Slough Borough Council conducted a Travel Survey on our School and the numbers of our students being brought to school by car is extremely high given the short distance the vast majority of our students reside from School. The most common reason given for lateness is traffic problems. I urge you, wherever possible, to encourage and/or let your child walk or cycle to school. This will help them be healthier, improve our environment and reduce traffic problems in the local area. I also wish to remind you that cars should not be brought onto the school site, the only exception is for dedicated taxis for our Autistic Base students. This is for the safety of all my students and staff.

Parents' Information Evening

This year I am introducing a series of information events. Some are targeted at parents with specific age of their children but others are more general. All parents are welcome to attend. These are not compulsory but in response to parents asking us for information on certain themes. We have already ran our first session for Year 7 Parents. All will start at 5pm in the Main Hall. The themes are as follows:

- Tuesday 9th October – Keeping your child safe
- Tuesday 16th October – Understanding your child's report and progress data
- Thursday 8th November – Year 11 Examinations and Revision
- Wednesday 14th November – Supporting the most able
- Thursday 17th January – Careers, Information and Guidance
- Tuesday 19th March – Supporting the learning of SEN, EAL and ASD learners

Parent Governor Vacancies

Our current Parent Governors' Term of Office have concluded and therefore we have two vacancies for governors directly elected by parents. Please see letter and information on our website. Governors have requested to



advertise again due to a lack of response previously and we would really like parents represented on the Board of Governors.

Upcoming Important Dates and End of Term Notification

Tuesday 2 nd October 2018	Open Evening 5.30-7.30pm
Wednesday 3 rd October 2018	Delayed start to school day due to Open Evening previous night – School starts at 9.30am
Friday 19 th October 2018	Last day of Half Term – 3.10pm Finish
Monday 22 nd October to Friday 27 th October 2018	Half Term Holiday
Monday 29 th October 2018	All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.
Thursday 13 th December 2018	Year 11 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
Tuesday 18 th December 2018	Year 12/13 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
Wednesday 19 th December 2018	Last Day of Term. School will operate a compact day.
Thursday 20 th December to Wednesday 2 nd January 2019	Christmas Holiday
Monday 7 th January 2019	First Day of Term. All students attend school at 8.35 for 8.40am start.

New Building

I am very pleased to say we are about to move into our new building. Drawing on the School's history we have named it The Woodside Building. Very soon students will be learning English, Humanities and Languages in superb accommodation. The Woodside Building will also provide a superb new library, study space, SEN and EAL rooms, medical and welfare facilities and some fantastic and long awaited new student toilets. We will also have two new science labs opening in the existing Science Block.

GCSE and A'Level Results

I am very pleased to report that both our A Level and GCSE results improved this year. This is a significant achievement for our students given the new more rigorous examinations they sat. Of particular note was Vairnder's GCSE results where she achieved four 9 grades, the best possible. In old style, Varinder achieved 5A*, 4As and 1B. Marena achieved eight level 8s and 1 6, in old style eight A*s and one B. Level 9 grades were recorded in many subjects areas. This success and our increased appeal externally has led to Wexham enrolling its largest number of Year 12 students in almost a decade. This includes students joining us from all over Slough including grammar schools.

Our A Level results have kept up our strong track record of ensuring students continuing with their education, training or joining employment, which Ofsted reported so favourably. Of particular note this year was Basira who is now reading Law at Reading University, Ikhlq who is now reading Economics at The University of Surrey and Amaan who is now reading History at Royal Holloway.

Congratulations to all our students who worked exceptionally hard for their exams. We wish you all the very best for the future.

Communication

On all my past letters I always include a section on recent good news and highlights of what has been happening at Wexham. As we now have our @Wexham Newsletter regularly being published I will cease doing this on letters. For the latest version please do check our website. Also please do keep in touch with what we are doing via the news section on our website and by following us on Twitter, our address is @Wexham_School.

We also have the Wexham School App, to access this please follow these instructions.

- Firstly, you will need to download the app from either the iTunes App Store , Google Play or Windows Store by clicking on the relevant buttons below or by loading up the app store on your phone and searching for 'School News'.



- Once you have located and downloaded the free app, launch the app and you will then be able to either click on the **'Find my school'** button which uses the phones GPS to locate all the schools in the surrounding 20 miles, or you can type in the schools postcode and click on **'Get my school'** button. The school's postcode is: **SL2 5QP**. You will then see a list of schools that use the app. Click on Wexham School to view news and events.
- You will then be able to click on the **'News'** button to view all of the latest news items that have been added to the Wexham School Website and also all of the upcoming calendar events by clicking on the **'Events'** button.
- Clicking on **'My Schools'** will display a list of schools that you view news and events for. Clicking on one of the schools will the display the school address, telephone number and email address which you can click on to either phone or email the school directly from the app.

Please do remember that letters will not always be posted to you. When a new letter is placed on the website parents will be texted so please do ensure we always have your most up to date contact details.

Emergency Closure

- A reminder of our emergency closure procedure.
- The decision to close the school outside of core hours will be taken by 7.30am after an assessment of poor weather conditions or on the advice of Slough Borough Council or the emergency services. We will always aim to contact parents by text message as early as possible; normally this would be by 7.45am, before students leave for school. Messages will also be displayed on the school website.
- Should the school be forced to close during the day, or your child has arrived on school premises in the morning, you will be contacted before we send students home.
- Further text messages and our website will update parents of our situation. For this reason it is always vital that the school has up to date contact details.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr Lawrence Smith
Headteacher