14 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of our first full fortnight of the new academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to reflect on what has been a truly wonderful start to the term. This has been a particularly special time for me as I begin my role as Headteacher of Foxford School. I am incredibly proud to lead such a vibrant, ambitious and caring school community, and I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome and support I have received from students, staff, parents and carers alike.

We have enjoyed an extremely positive start to the year. It has been fantastic to welcome all students back to school, and I am delighted to report that attendance is already stronger than it was at this point last year. Equally encouraging is the improvement we have seen in punctuality, both to school and to lessons. Students have returned with a clear sense of purpose and a determination to make the most of every opportunity available to them.

Alongside this, student behaviour has been highly impressive. Students have conducted themselves with maturity, courtesy and pride, creating a calm and purposeful atmosphere across the school. This has played a significant role in ensuring that learning has got off to an excellent start.

One of the most exciting developments this year has been the launch of our new House System. Students now belong to one of four houses: Sherbourne, Herbert, Highfield and Weaver. The enthusiasm generated by the launch has been fantastic to see, and our first house competition, the Year 7 Football Tournament, was a tremendous success. Congratulations to Highfield House for becoming our first house champions. This is just the beginning, with many more house competitions and events planned throughout the year. Students have already been earning significant numbers of house points through excellent attendance, positive behaviour, strong effort and contributions to school life. We will be providing a comprehensive update on house point totals very soon.

I would also like to thank parents and carers for your support in implementing our revised mobile phone policy. Students have adapted exceptionally well to this change. The impact has been noticeable throughout the school, with students engaging more readily in conversations, interacting positively with their peers and focusing more fully on their learning. Reducing the distractions associated with social media and phone use has helped create a more positive and productive learning environment, and we are grateful for your partnership in making this a success.

Our new timetable holders are also proving highly successful. Students are clear about where they need to be and when, which has supported smoother movement around the school and contributed to the calm and orderly atmosphere that visitors and staff have observed.
The changes to the school day are also having a positive impact. The additional time with tutors is allowing us to strengthen relationships, support student wellbeing, address concerns promptly and reinforce the high expectations that help all young people succeed.

During the first two weeks of term, I have had the privilege of visiting lessons across all year groups and subject areas. What I have seen has been extremely encouraging. Standards of learning are high, with teachers working hard to ensure that every student is appropriately supported and challenged. Across the school I have seen higher-attaining students being stretched to achieve their very best, alongside effective and meaningful support for students who require additional help. This is inclusive education at its best.

Perhaps most pleasingly, students have demonstrated excellent engagement in their learning. Classrooms have been characterised by focus, participation and enthusiasm. Our CODE attributes of Challenge, Ownership, Dialogue and Engagement are becoming increasingly visible in lessons and are helping to shape a culture where all students understand what successful learning looks like. These messages have been reinforced through our first "Say Yes to Learning" sessions of the year. I would like to thank Mr Dhesi and Mr Carsley for their work with Year 7 students, helping them to develop the habits, attitudes and understanding required to be successful learners at Foxford from the very beginning of their secondary school journey.

We were also delighted to welcome Year 12 parents and carers into school recently as we launched our work experience programme. These sessions provided an important opportunity to discuss expectations, explain how students can maximise their post-16 opportunities and outline the ways in which parents and carers can support their children to excel during this crucial stage of their education.

I have also had the opportunity to deliver assemblies to every year group, introducing my vision and values for Foxford School. These assemblies were extremely well received and have helped establish a shared understanding of the high aspirations we hold for every student. It has been particularly pleasing to see the renewed sense of focus and determination that students have demonstrated since returning to school.

Safeguarding remains our highest priority. Through assemblies, PSHE lessons and daily interactions, we continue to reinforce key safeguarding messages and ensure that students know who they can talk to if they have any worries or concerns. In the coming weeks, we will be conducting student voice activities to gather feedback directly from young people and ensure that all students feel safe, supported and confident in accessing help when required.

Attendance continues to be a key focus for the school. We are promoting a simple but powerful message: *every day matters and every student matters*. Excellent attendance not only improves academic achievement but also strengthens friendships, supports wellbeing, develops positive habits and increases students' sense of belonging within the school community. Missing even small amounts of learning can quickly add up over time. We are therefore committed to working closely with families to ensure every student attends regularly and is able to benefit fully from the rich educational opportunities available at Foxford. As part of this work, attendance initiatives including our Weekly Sprint competitions, attendance challenges and attendance newsletters will recognise and celebrate students who demonstrate excellent or improving attendance.

I would also like to thank parents and carers for their support in maintaining our high standards of uniform. Students are wearing their Foxford uniform with pride, and this contributes significantly to our school culture. A smart and consistent appearance promotes a sense of belonging, reduces distractions and reinforces the high expectations we have for ourselves and one another. We appreciate your continued support in ensuring students arrive at school ready to learn every day.

Many students will have recently had their school photographs taken, and we look forward to families receiving these in due course.

Looking ahead, I am particularly excited about our Year 11 Excellence Evening, which will take place on Thursday 17 September. We look forward to welcoming Year 11 students and their parents and carers for what promises to be an informative and inspiring evening. Alongside subject information stalls, there will be a range of support sessions focusing on:

- Effective revision techniques in action
- The importance of exercise, sleep and diet
- Attendance and achievement
- Common revision pitfalls to avoid
- Advice from former students
- Equipment and revision resources
- Supporting your child at home

Our Year 11 students have already made an extremely positive start to this important academic year. Their focus in lessons has been excellent, and attendance at additional after-school intervention sessions has been particularly impressive. These sessions are invaluable in helping students consolidate learning, address any misconceptions, build confidence and maximise their examination performance. The commitment that students are already demonstrating gives me great confidence that they are positioning themselves strongly for success next summer.

Thank you once again for your support during what has been such a positive start to the academic year. Together, we will continue to ensure that Foxford School is a place where every student feels safe, valued, challenged and inspired to achieve their very best.

I look forward to working closely with you throughout the year ahead.

Yours faithfully



Mr T Jordan
Headteacher