

Mr Chris Thomas BSc
Head of School

17th September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to introduce myself as the interim Head of School at Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first week here, meeting new colleagues and students and it is clear that Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy is a fantastic, friendly place to learn and work. I look forward to meeting you over the next few weeks – there are a number of parents' evenings on the calendar which will provide an opportunity to say hello.

As a parent of two teenage children, I value a school which keeps children safe and provides a caring but challenging environment for young people. I strongly believe that our role is to provide the best possible preparation for adult life, both socially and academically, so my focus will be on ensuring that high standards of behaviour, attendance and dress are met in order that learning can take place in a calm and focused environment. I was delighted to read the many positive comments in the report of the Ofsted monitoring visit which took place at the end of last term and look forward to working with students, staff and parents to build further on that this year.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you about some of the expectations of our students here at Lynch Hill and ask you, as parents, to support your children in meeting them.

Punctuality

Students are expected to be in school by 8.25am, at the very latest. I have been greeting students every morning at the front of school and am delighted by how many arrive well before this time. There are, however, a small minority who I see dropped off late or who are dawdling on their way to school. The school day starts promptly at 8.30am so I would appreciate your support in ensuring that your child is in school on time.

Uniform

I have been particularly impressed by the standards of uniform. The vast majority of students are arriving at school impeccably dressed. Once again, thank you for your support in this matter and if we can quickly reach the point when ALL of our students are properly dressed, it will enable staff to focus more of their efforts into teaching high quality lessons for your children.

The end of the school day

Along with many secondary schools, we are not blessed with dedicated space for parents to drop-off and collect their children by car. This is more of a problem at the end of the school day. We do have an informal arrangement with Arbour Park Stadium, next to the school, where they allow parents to use their parking spaces

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at the end of the school day. I must stress, however, that this is entirely at their discretion and that **we do not have any jurisdiction** over this area. There may be times when the stadium has a function on and parking is not available. I have seen frustration amongst parents when trying to enter or leave the stadium car park and would simply ask that you remember that there are many young people walking through at this time and that patience may be needed if you choose to collect from this particular point.

Allergies

Finally, a reminder that we have a number of children with allergies and therefore, we are a 'nut-free school'

I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks and am always keen to hear your views on the school. Term has started in a very positive manner and I am eager to ensure that it continues!

Yours sincerely

Chris Thomas
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