

# THE PALMER CATHOLIC ACADEMY

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Headteacher: Mrs. A. Moise-Dixon

July 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

It is hard to believe that another academic year is rapidly coming to an end. I thank students, staff and parents/carers for the continued support and hard work that has gone into making this another successful academic year.

Firstly I would like to commend the conduct of our Y11 and Y13 students who have been a credit to their families during this examination season. We have been delighted with the mature and steadfast reaction of our students during this particularly stressful time and wish them the success that they deserve this summer.

Secondly, as you know, I will be leaving the academy at the end of the Autumn term and will be succeeded by Mr Downey. Mr Downey will be Headteacher Designate from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and will then take over the role of Headteacher fully from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. I will still be on site daily during the Autumn term in an advisory role and in order to meet our legal requirements, however, Mr Downey will be dealing with the general day to day business of the academy.

## Academy Day

The academy length of day remains the same, however, from September 2018, morning registration will be extended from 8.45am to 9.20am and will now include 'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR) across the academy. Period 1 will run from 9.20am to 11.00am with morning break from 11.00am to 11.20am. Period 2 will run from 11.20am to 1.00pm with lunch from 1.00pm to 1.40pm and Period 3 (including PM registration) will run from 1.40pm to 3.20pm when students will be dismissed.

## Breakfast Club

A reminder that supervised Breakfast Club runs every morning, Monday to Friday from 8.00am to 8.40am in O'Donnell Hall. Please note that students who are on Pupil Premium have an additional £1.00 added to their accounts.

## Social Media Monitoring

Increasingly we are dealing with behaviour resulting from social media conversations that students are having in the evenings and in some very worrying incidences, until the very early hours of the morning. You will be aware of the potential harm of this. I urge all parents and carers to check their child's phone intermittently. Be aware of passwords and where possible, confiscate phones after a certain time to enable children to sleep uninterrupted and for them to be able to settle for the evening. Please see below the following websites that may be of use and guidance for all parents/carers:

[www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk)

[www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-parents-and-carers/](http://www.kidscape.org.uk/advice/advice-for-parents-and-carers/)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-parents-and-carers/child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-parents-and-carers-whose-children-are-using-social-media>

## Mobile Phones

The Mobile Phone Policy can be found on the academy's website. Please read the document carefully to avoid any misunderstanding or confusion that could be caused by not accessing the policy. The policy of the academy has always been that students should not bring mobile phones into the academy. Therefore, all mobile phones that are brought into the academy are done so at the owner's own risk.

Full responsibility will rest with students who bring their phones onto the academy site that the phones remain switched off and are not used if students are to avoid the confiscation sanctions as laid out in the policy.

## Staff Changes

A number of staff are leaving us this year for a variety of reasons. Staff leaving are:

Julia Mahoney – Head of Computer Science – moving on to a new challenge

Danielle Krist – English Teacher – taking up a new teaching post

Greg Symes – Head of ADT – taking up a new teaching post out of London

Elliott Corton – PE Teacher – relocating to Australia

Michael Larkin – Science Teacher and HOY10 – taking up a new teaching post

Dominic West – History Instructor – contract end

Sam Wiles – Science Teacher – taking up a new teaching post

Catherine Hynes – RE Teacher – moving on to a new challenge

Afsana Begum – LSA – starting teacher training course

I would like to thank all staff, particularly those of long standing, for the contribution they have made to the development and success of the academy.

## New Staff

We welcome the following staff to the academy this September:

Elizabeth Pountney – Lead Art Teacher

Kevin Lalley – PE Teacher

Hester Wright – Computer Science Teacher

Nida Kidwai – Science Teacher

Holly Taylor – English Teacher

Dezna Marks – History Teacher

Andrew Beckford – Geography Teacher

## Online Payment System

A reminder to parents/carers that The Palmer Catholic Academy operates a cashless system and therefore we are encouraging parents to pay online for trips/events and other products via our online payment system. If you are not yet registered you will soon be receiving your online link code and instructions of how to log in.

If you are already registered an event/trip or product will appear on your home page when you login to your online account.

## Trips and student clothing

It is now academy policy that if students are to go out on educational visits, both from a safeguarding and professional dress point of view, they are to dress in full academy uniform. If the visit requires activities where academy uniform may be restrictive, PE kits are to be worn. Staff planning trips, will let the students know whether they will be required to wear academy uniform or PE Kits. No students will be allowed to attend day trips in non-academy uniform.

## Academy Uniform

Students are to return to the academy in September in full uniform. You are requested not to purchase uniform items from any uniform shop other than our official supplier, Lucilla in Cranbrook Road, Ilford. Other supposed 'official suppliers' are selling items that are incorrect such as badges, skirt styles etc. Please note that students are required to wear a plain white uniform shirt (no pockets) that must be worn tucked in and with a tie.

Students should wear plain black shoes that are able to be polished, with flat heel and worn below the ankle. Patent style shoes, sling-backs, open toes, stilettos, kicker boots, trainers, canvas shoes and shoe-styled trainers are not allowed. There should be no identifying "tags" or "labels." Examples of suitable footwear for boys and girls can be found on our website.

***Should students arrive at the academy wearing unsuitable footwear, it will be confiscated until the end of the day and students will be given plimsolls to wear over the course of the academy day. This will continue until students have the correct shoes.***

## Diary Dates

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Academy closes at 12.15pm for all students for the end of the academic year
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	A Level results available for collection by students at the academy from 8.30am
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> August	GCSE results available for collection by students at the academy from 8.30am

## Start of academic year 2018/19

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Staff Inset Day – no students in the academy
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	Staff Inset Day – no students in the academy
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Years 7 and 13 return at 8.40am
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	All students return at 8.40am

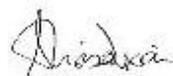
## Term Dates for Academic Year 2018-2019

I enclose the term dates for the next academic year from September 2018 to July 2019. These are also available on the website.

Should you wish to see me or Mr Downey regarding any matter pertaining to your child, please contact Mrs Julie Bolton to arrange a mutually convenient appointment.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the academy and wish you and your families a happy, enjoyable and restful summer break and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Yours sincerely



A Moise-Dixon  
Headteacher