

Date

17 August 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to you all, whether you are joining our city wide family for the first time or are well used to the Back to School routine. Welcome too, to the many families who have joined us from overseas, including from Afghanistan and Ukraine. We are delighted to have you with us.

New P1s, new residents, new friends, new classes. We are very good at arranging ourselves into groups which often makes life easier – particularly for teaching and learning – but being put into groups can sometimes create false barriers and conflict – where you live, what you look like, your religion or politics and so on.

For that reason you will find that our staff take a lot of trouble to point out the ways in which we are all alike, to encourage our children and young people to see similarities instead of differences, and to treat each other with kindness. We will be relying on our humanity and kindness in the coming months as resources become tighter. Please know that you will find kindness and care from everyone in your school or early years centre, and from the teams and services that support them.

In the meantime we are back to school and using those precious hours to develop healthy bodies (no Vaping in school please) and active minds. Pupils make the most progress in their learning when there is a strong partnership between the home and school, so please do get involved and ask questions if you don't have enough information. This is important at every stage of school but in the senior phase it is vital that no time is wasted – there is so much to achieve.

I hope the start of the session goes smoothly for you all, and thank you again for all your support.

You are very welcome to get in touch – there is no daft question and no shortage of goodwill.

Yours sincerely



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