



## **Pensby High School**

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Headteacher: Mr K Flanagan

12 July 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Review of the 2015-16**

2015-16 has been the first year of the new Pensby High School and is one that the school community can rightly look back on with real pride. The boys and girls have come together into one new school and now are taught in mixed classes and form tutor groups. When I show parents and visitors around the school they all comment on the excellent behaviour of the students, the mutually respectful relationships that are evident between pupils and teachers and the welcoming atmosphere. These observations are a credit to the pupils, staff and also to the strong support received from home.

As I have now reached the end of my second year as Headteacher it is time to take stock and reflect on the improvements that have been made and what still needs to be done. I told parents when I became Headteacher that a key aim was to improve the quality of teaching and learning across the school but particularly in the key areas of English, maths and science. I am pleased to report to you that considerable improvements in the quality of teaching and learning have been made and that the school now believes it to be good overall. Perhaps the most powerful evidence of this is directly from the pupils themselves who, for instance, have told the governors of the school over recent visits that they believe they are learning more because the quality of teaching has improved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at the school for their hard work and commitment over the course of the year. We now hope that these improvements are evident in the GCSE and A level results this summer.

Academic progress is a key part of each young person's development whilst at the school. However, I believe strongly that the development of each individual in a wider sense is also highly important. This year the school has worked hard to improve the range of extra-curricular provision to help engage our pupils with a wide variety of opportunities. These are almost too numerous to mention but have included: our successful partnership with LIPA to provide increased opportunities in the performing arts, the school production of 'The Wiz', theatre and art gallery trips, university visits, trampolining, participation in the Wirral Athletics competition, Year 10 finalists in the Wirral Football Cup playing at Prenton Park, the Spanish exchange, Spain trip to Barcelona, Year 7 residential, Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and the London Trip. These activities enrich the lives of the pupils who take part and I am extremely grateful to the staff for their support in providing these additional opportunities.

### **End of Term Arrangements.**

This year term ends on Wednesday 20 July 2016 and pupils will finish at 12.25 and make their way home after being registered. Please would you be aware that the only buses that will be available will be normal service buses and school buses will not run at the time pupils are departing for home. Therefore, it is essential that all pupils have made appropriate arrangements for their journey home on the last day of term. If for any reason these arrangements present specific difficulties then please would you contact the school in advance so that appropriate provision can be made for your child.

Attached to this letter are some key upcoming dates for your diary, I hope that these prove useful.

However, there have also been great difficulties experienced by members of our school community and I would ask you to remember them in your thoughts this summer. Regardless of how much we improve as a school, wherever we get to with GCSE or A level results, the reality for a very small number of students and their families is that this year has been a trial, with illness and accidents taking precious time from them with the ones they love. More than ever the trials and tribulations of life, especially its impact on others makes me very grateful for what I have. I am proud and privileged to have the opportunity to lead the school your children attend. They are a credit to you and themselves, we are all immensely proud of them, may they all enjoy their summer with peace, a sense of tranquillity shared with all in their family and warm sunny days long remembered.

## **KEY DATES:**

### **Examination Results**

External examination results will be available for pupils on the following dates:

AS and A Level Examination: Thursday 18 August 2016

GCSE Level Examinations: Thursday 25 August 2016

Result slips will be available for collection from 9am in the Sixth Form block on these dates. Can I remind parents/carers that the school cannot give out results over the phone or fax results. A stamped self-addressed envelope can be provided for posting.

We wish your son / daughter the best of luck if she is due to receive examination results this year.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Form Registration**

Year 13 registration takes place on the 18 and 19 August 2016 between 8 – 12 in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Block.

Year 12 registration takes place on the 25 and 26 August 2016 between 8 – 12 in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form Block.

### **New Term Arrangements**

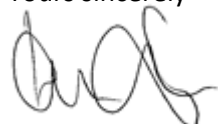
Years 7 and 12 start school on Wednesday 7 September 2016 at 8.40 a.m.

Years 8 – 11 start school on Thursday 8 September 2016 at 8.40 a.m.

As your son / daughter prepares for their return to school I would be grateful if you would ensure that they have the correct uniform and equipment ready to start the new school. Your support in this matter is very much appreciated. Full details of the school uniform can be found on the school website using the link below.

<http://www.pensbyhighschool.com/uniform.php>

Yours sincerely



**Mr K Flanagan**  
**Headteacher**