



## EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

Mr K Ford

## HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mr G Pendlebury

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

As we have completed the first month of this academic year and most students have settled back into our well-established routines lesson after lesson, day after day giving their 'Personal Best'.

We would like to remind all parents/ carers of some of our school rules, procedures and information that helps the school to run smoothly and minimise distractions and disruptions. Many of these points were covered in the information evenings and on the presentations shared on those evenings that can still be accessed via our [website](#).

### **Curriculum Learning Ladders**

We have updated the [curriculum](#) section of the website to give you as parents/ carers and the students a better understanding of the curriculum being followed and the learning journey in each subject area.

In most subject areas you will now see a tab called [learning ladders](#) on the left hand side of the subject page and when you [open a ladder](#) you will be able to see the learning journey students will follow in that subject across Key Stage 3 and 4 (years 7-11) and on a separate ladder at Key Stage 5 (years 12 and 13).

The learning journey shows you an outline of what will be studied in each academic year. However, for further detail if you click on the [year number](#) you will then get a much more detailed breakdown of the subject material being studied in each half term in an academic year. You will also be able to see a range of resources that subject leaders at the school have identified as being useful for the different modules being studied – some of which have links that will take you directly to further resources that will support the learning journey in that subject.

### **Support**

All students have access to a wide range of support in school. This begins with their form tutor, the first port of call for all general questions and support. Questions should be directed to subject teachers when they are subject specific or lesson-based issues. Students can also see their Student Support Officer or Director of Learning for support.

### **Mobile Phones**

Students can bring their mobile phone to school, but the phone should be in their bag out of sight. In some lessons, the teacher will ask students to use their mobile phone for a learning activity. If a student does not have a mobile, then they will work with a partner or be given another device to take part in the activity. It is our belief as a school that mobile phones are a powerful piece of technology that can enhance teaching and learning, and children need to be educated to use them responsibly and respectfully. Mobile phones are also widely used in the workplace and over the next few years it is likely that they will play an even more powerful part in the world of work. If a child

uses their mobile phone inappropriately or without being asked to by a member of staff, their phone will be confiscated for the remainder of the day and returned to them from reception at the end of the day. If it is confiscated twice in a half term parents/ carers could be asked to come to school and collect the phone.

### **Attitude to Learning**

Great Marlow School's vision is that of *creating opportunities, realising potential and achieving excellence* for all students. A student's attitude to learning is at the heart of this. Descriptor below for an Excellent attitude to learning:

Always on task with high levels of commitment to the subject. An excellent student takes responsibility for all aspects of their learning, follows instruction, and acts on advice that is given to promote progress and improvement. Highly organised, an excellent student is respectful to peers, staff, and the environment they interact in and always demonstrates resilience when learning. The student displays a readiness to learn, realise their potential and produce work in the school environment and independently that is of a high quality for their ability.

### **Uniform – [Website page link](#)**

**Hair** – No extreme styles or unnatural looking colours

**Nails** – Nude colours only, no false/acrylic nails

**Jewellery** – One simple ring, a single stud in each ear (each removed for PE)

**Skirts** – Not rolled at the waistband, worn and at an appropriate length and logo clearly displayed

**Shoes** – Smart and black, not trainers or trainer-style

**Sports equipment** – in a bag, only used in designated areas at specified times.

**Trousers** – not jeans

**Jumpers** – Black V neck jumper, no branded sweatshirts or hoodies. **Jumper is an additional layer – blazer must be worn**

**Blazers** – To be worn every day, COATS must be worn over the top, if required

**Tie** – worn every day

Students not wearing the correct uniform will receive sanctions. Please write your child a note in their planner if they are not able to wear the correct uniform for a legitimate reason.

### **Lates and attendance**

Good attendance and punctuality underpin everything that we do at Great Marlow School. Students are expected in school before or by 8:30am. Every school day matters.

- **If a student is late to school, there will be a sanction of a 15 minute break detention (on the same day)**
- **If a student fails to attend the break detention, they will have a 30 minute after school detention on a Thursday**
- **If a student fails to attend the 30 minute after school detention, they will have a 1hr after school detention on the Friday**

Unsurprisingly, year after year students with high levels of attendance make the most academic and personal progress in the school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kevin Ford  
Executive Headteacher