



# Eckington School

Chorus Education Trust

June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Throughout the 2023/24 academic year, I would like to inform you that there have been many whole-school changes that have been designed to improve educational standards at Eckington School. These have included but are not limited to: The implementation of Eckington Way (Safe; Calm; Polite & Kind; Prepared and Ambitious); a new in-class and out of class behaviour system; a new anti-bullying system designed to address any forms of unkind behaviour; a new Attitudes to Learning reporting system (5Rs) and new teaching and learning quality assurance system (lead by Chorus Education Trust).

Please see below a couple of important whole-school changes that are being implemented from September 2024.

## **Important Changes to the Leadership of SEND (Special Education Needs/Disability)**

From September 2024, Eckington's SENDCo will be Mrs. A. Gregory (Assistant Headteacher i/c Inclusion). Mrs. A Gregory will be working closely with Mrs. P Ward (SEND Manager) and Miss. L Demirkazik (Chorus' Director of SEND) to ensure the quality of education for students with additional needs continues to improve.

I am confident that by having our SENDCo on the school's senior leadership team this will help ensure that SEND remains a whole-school priority, ensuring this area of school improvement is regularly discussed at a strategic, senior leadership team level.

## **New Pastoral Structure from September 2024**

From September 2024, there will be a new pastoral structure at Eckington. This will consist of three Heads of Key Phase (lower school, middle school, and upper school) and five Pastoral Support Assistants (PSAs).

The school's Sixth Form pastoral structure will consist of Mrs. K Needham (Head of Sixth Form); Mrs. A Roberts (Deputy Head of Sixth) and Mrs. R Exley (PSA). The table (overleaf) illustrates the new pastoral system:

### *Outstanding Achievement for All*

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Year 6 (Transition to secondary)	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9 (GCSE Options)	Year 10	Year 11 (Exams & Destinations)	Year 12	Year 13
Head of Lower School		Head of Middle School		Head of Upper School		Deputy Head of Sixth From	
Mrs. C Gregory		Mrs. E Martin		Mr. P Brennan		Mrs. A Roberts	
	<b>Y7 PSA</b>	<b>Y8 PSA</b>	<b>Y9 PSA</b>	<b>Y10 PSA</b>	<b>Y11 PSA</b>	<b>Y12 &amp; Y13 PSA</b>	
	Mrs. Turner	Mrs. Hemming	Mrs. Woodhead	Mrs. Marshall	Mrs. Cliffe	Mrs. Exley	
	<b>SLT Link</b>	<b>SLT Link</b>	<b>SLT Link</b>	<b>SLT Link</b>	<b>SLT Link</b>	<b>SLT Link</b>	
	Mrs. A Gregory	Mrs. L Moor	Mr. Shore	Mr. Horsfield	Mr. Steed	Mrs. Needham	

From September, Eckington's PSAs will follow students throughout their academic journey, whereas the Heads of Key Phase will remain in their area of specialism. This will ensure Eckington School provides the very best support and guidance at key educational milestones (Y6/7 transition; Year 9 GCSE Options and Y11 Exams and Destinations).

### Uniform Changes Starting in September 2024

The following changes to the school's uniform policy will take effect from September 2024:

- Removal of the school blazer (saving parents between £28 and £38)
- Introduce a new style, black branded school jumper from September 2024 (along with the school tie, this will be the only other compulsory, branded piece of school uniform)
- Formal white shirt will remain (shirts must be tucked in)
- Trousers need to be plain black and tailored (no leggings or jean-style)
- We will allow any **plain black leather-look** footwear (no sports trainers or canvas material). *If you are considering purchasing footwear and are unsure if they are suitable, please contact your child's head of year or PSA for clarification before purchasing.*

Our new Eckington school jumper is available from our uniform supplier, Pinders.

Nearer the end of term, parents will receive the summer newsletter and I will write an end of term letter that will provide further school updates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr R. M. Cronin, Headteacher.