

17<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Return to School – September 2025**

As we reach the end of what has been an exciting and successful year, I am able to update you on our plans around returning to school in September. Our summer newsletter, which you will receive shortly, will contain information about all the many, varied and positive events that have taken place throughout the year.

### **Return Dates**

Year 8 students will return to school on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September** at the times shown below. After an extended form time, lessons will begin at 10.15 on the same day.

### **Year: 8**

Entrance to use: Uplands Entrance – Queens Drive

Time of return: 8.25

Head of Year: Mrs Murphy

Leadership Year Link: Miss Cassidy and Miss Reardon

SENCO: Mrs McGorian

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Miss McDermott

Lunch time: Lunch 2: 12.15 – 1.00

### **Mobile Phones, Headphones and Smart Watches**

**Phones** – must be switched off and placed in bags as soon as students enter site. Any phone seen at any time during the school day will be confiscated.

**Headphones** – students must not wear headphones on site. If these are seen at any time on site they will be confiscated, **along with the phone they will be connected to.**

**Confiscation:** Any member of staff can confiscate any item seen. If the student follows instructions straight away, the device will be returned to them at the end of the day. If the student refuses and other staff must become involved, the device will be stored securely until a parent can collect. Serious defiance will result in further sanctions up to and including suspension.

### **Uniform Policy**

Full details of our uniform can be found in the parent's section of our website at [www.hollylodge.liverpool.sch.uk](http://www.hollylodge.liverpool.sch.uk)

I would like to stress the following;

- All students should wear their blazer at all times.
- Outdoor jackets must be **plain black** and waterproof. Jackets of any other colour will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.
- Hair of shoulder length and longer must be tied back. Repeated failure to conform to this rule will lead to sanctions.
- Hair should also be of a natural colour.

### **Vaping**

Research has shown that vaping rates are climbing amongst young people and our students are no different. Vaping is illegal for anyone under 16 and is therefore banned in school. Any vapes found will be confiscated and disposed off with sanctions for those involved. Please regularly check that your daughter is not in possession of any vapes – either one of her own or another person's.

### **Car Parking**

A reminder that we do not allow parents to routinely park on site. If you wish to drop off or collect your daughter please arrange to drop her safely off in the local area so that she can make her way to school. When parking in the local area please be considerate to our local community by considering where and how you park.

### **Energy Drinks and Water**

Research has shown that energy drinks are physically and mentally harmful to young people so these are banned in school. Drinking Water is available all day around site, so please provide your daughter with a water bottle so that she can make use of this at break and lunchtime.

## **Attendance**

You will be aware that many schools nationally are finding it a challenge to return student attendance to school to the pre-Covid levels and Holly Lodge is no different. To support parents in our work to improve attendance, all parents will receive an attendance support booklet before the return to school in September, so please look out for it.

Holly Lodge is a safe and welcoming environment with notably positive relationships between all members of the school community and it is these relationships which are underpinned by the procedures outlined above which allow our students to excel. We thank you for your support in these important areas.

## **Staffing Updates**

We say goodbye to the following staff this year;

- Miss Hyde (Head of Geography)
- Mrs Mazilu (Teacher of French)
- Miss Tinney (Teacher of Maths)
- Miss McCleverty (Teaching Assistant)
- Miss Mundle (TA)
- Mr Thomas (Site Supervisor)

We thank them all for their service and wish them luck in the future.

We are delighted to welcome the following new staff and very much look forward to working with them;

- Miss Bedford (TA)
- Mrs Dike (TA)
- Mrs Ellis (TA)
- Miss Cartwright (Teacher of Maths)
- Miss Grace (Teacher of PE)
- Mr O'Sullivan (Teacher of Geography)

In addition, the following staff are in new roles from September;

- Miss McGuinness (Head of Geography)
- Mrs Mahmood (Assistant SENCO)
- Mr Tipler (Acting Deputy Curriculum Leader – Science)

Holly Lodge is a safe and welcoming environment with notably positive relationships between all members of the school community and it is these relationships which allow our students to excel.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our students back after a well-deserved rest and to getting to know our new students, following what we expect to be another excellent set of examination results in the summer. Our successes have come about through hard work, high expectations and your support, so thank you on behalf of all the staff.

With very best wishes for a happy and healthy summer.

Yours sincerely



**Mr A. Keen**  
**Headteacher**

**EXPECT TO ACHIEVE**

