

5 September 2025

Dear Parents,

I am delighted to welcome everyone back to Knole Academy for the 2025/26 academic year. For our new starters, a very warm welcome to our community.

Attendance

I have often emphasized the importance of good attendance and its direct link to academic achievement. I will be sending out a more detailed letter on Monday, which will include guidance from the government and Kent. However, I would like to thank parents and students for their efforts this week. The attendance for the first week back has been significantly higher than last year.

Exam Results

Our Year 11 students achieved the best results the academy has ever recorded in every metric in their GCSEs. Consequently, we are welcoming back our largest Year 12 cohort ever into the Sixth Form. Our Year 13 students also performed exceptionally well in their IB exams, receiving their results in July. These were further complemented by outstanding results in vocational subjects released in mid-August. We wish these students the very best for the future.

Buses and Bus Passes

The same buses are currently running as last year, and there are no plans to change any routes. The grace period for bus passes will end on 12 September, after which students will need a valid bus pass to travel; Mrs. Nolan is distributing these as soon as they are issued by Kent. The start of the academic year is a challenging time for bus companies as they assess the demand for each service. One of the senior managers of Go Coach has been on site at the end of the day to assist with the loading process and review the service to ensure adequate provision in the future. Most of our buses are provided by Go Coach, and they have an app called "GO Coach Hire," available from the respective app stores. This app provides students and parents with live tracking of the buses.

Parking

The school site can become very congested at the end of the school day. I encourage parents not to park around the mini roundabout at the front of the school, as this makes the dispersal of students very difficult and impacts the ability of buses to access the site. When parking in local roads, please be mindful of our neighbours.

School Uniform Expectations

We believe that wearing the correct school uniform is essential in promoting a sense of pride and belonging among our students. All students are expected to adhere to the uniform policy, which includes wearing the school blazer, tie, and appropriate footwear. Please ensure that your child is dressed according to the guidelines provided on the website. I would like to thank parents for the efforts they have made, students looked extremely smart this week.

Important dates

Term dates for this year and next year are available on the school website:

<https://www.knoleacademy.org/our-school/term-dates/>

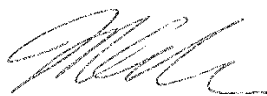
Please do not book holidays or events outside of these times. These will not be authorised but more importantly, students will be missing out on learning that their peers are accessing.

Events such as parents' evenings, open days, and extracurricular activities can be found on the events calendar. Unfortunately, we have an issue with it not displaying all the required information at present. We hope to have this rectified soon, but just to make you aware of some important upcoming events:

- Friday 19 September the school will close at 1.20pm in preparation for Open day; I will send out more details regarding this shortly.
- Open Day is Saturday 20 September for current Year 5 and 6 students.
- On Monday 22 September the school is closed to students for a staff INSET day and to allow for the site to be cleaned following the Open Day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,



David Collins
Headteacher