

Headteacher: Mr Gary Nelson

7 September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

GCSE Results 2016-17; Overview of 2017-18

I hope you and your families have enjoyed a good summer holiday, and found the time to make the very best of the break from our hectic schedules that it provides. Last year was an important and successful one for Wapping High School, so I thought I'd write to you now at the beginning of term with a summary of our achievements in our first ever GCSE results this summer, and to give you more information about how the School will be moving forward in 2017-18.

GCSE results 2016-17

One of the most exciting events during the summer was Wapping High School's first Year 11 cohort receiving their GCSE exam results. We were very impressed with some of the grades awarded, particularly in English and Maths. We were also especially pleased with the high number of the new Level 8's and 9's students achieved, which were a great credit to us all. Several parents attending the GCSE results morning shared their delight at the results, and I'm so very gladdened that all Year 11's leaving us this year have meaningful and worthwhile destinations. Good luck to all, in what I'm sure will be an amazing future for them!

Staffing

We have already set some new, more ambitious targets for everyone here at the School, as staff and governors are all determined that we provide the very best learning opportunities possible for all our students. As for every school, maintaining the highest standards of staffing is crucial, so we have made some important changes that I'm certain will have a significant, positive impact:

- Ms Ingram and Ms Charman have become our Heads of House within a new pastoral team led by Ms Sanders;
- Mr Edwards joins us as Head of PE; Ms Golkowska, as Teacher of Mathematics and Ms Guest, as Teacher of German and French; also
- Ms Kaur joins us as our new Attendance and Welfare Officer, and Mr Dervin is also a welcome addition as our School Business Manager.

Attendance and punctuality

As well as developing a stronger emphasis on learning here at Wapping High School, this year we will also be focused on improving attendance and punctuality. In order to ensure we maintain our high levels of punctuality, we have changed the time students need to arrive at school in the morning: from now on, **students need to be in school by 8.25am** every morning to ensure they are present to be registered at 8.30am.

Enrichment

We will develop Enrichment Learning and resources, as well as extracurricular opportunities at the School this year. Our emphasis will be on reducing the amount of timetabled Enrichment but increasing the both quality of this important time *and* on expanding the range of interesting and engaging activities available. This will mean that:

- Enrichment lessons will now be delivered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, ending at 4.00pm;
- The end of the school day on Thursdays and Fridays will be 3.00pm;
- Mondays will remain a timetabled, six-lesson day, and will end at 4.00pm; and
- There will be separate, activity-based clubs running on Thursdays after school—which, following feedback from parents—will include a homework club, so the School will still be open to students until 4.00pm.

Parent-Teacher Association ('PTA')

I'm also very keen to further develop Wapping High's PTA. Parents are more than welcome to get involved, and I'd be happy if you wanted to know more about this since there's no better way to ensure you get the best education for your child than to engage in it directly. More information will follow but—if you're interested at this stage—please do get in contact with Shamaila Butt (who is managing the PTA) via shamailabutt@wappinghigh.org.

In summary, we're all anticipating an exciting and highly productive year ahead and 2017-18's Year 11's once again achieving some excellent exam results. Everyone at Wapping High School is determined to provide the very best education possible for every one of our students, and I look forward to working with you to achieve this.

Yours faithfully,



Gary Nelson
Headteacher