

1 September 2026

Dear Students / Parent / Guardian

Welcome Back!

We are delighted to welcome our students to Maiden Erlegh School in Reading for the new academic year. We hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer break.

As we begin this exciting new term, we are looking forward to a year filled with opportunity, growth, and success. Our school values – **Determination, Respect, Excellence, Attitude, and Maturity** – will continue to guide all that we do. These principles are not just words but the foundation of the positive and ambitious culture we strive to build together.

This year, we are especially focused on fostering a supportive and high-achieving environment where every student feels valued and challenged to reach their full potential. With a positive mindset and commitment to our shared values, we know this will be a fantastic year for all.

To help students start the year on the right foot, we ask for your support in ensuring that all students arrive each day in the correct **school uniform**, equipped with the **necessary materials for learning**, and wearing their **updated school lanyard and passport** (issued to them on the first day). These small but important details contribute to a calm, focused, and respectful school environment where students can thrive.

Please see our uniform and equipment list [here](#).

Welcome from your Head of Year

Welcome to MER! I hope this message finds you well and rested after the summer holidays. It is with great excitement that I welcome you to MER as you begin your journey into Year 7. As Head of Year, I am thrilled to be part of this important step in your secondary school adventure and look forward to getting to know each of you in the coming months.

Joining secondary school is a huge step, one that will bring new friendships, challenges, and opportunities to learn, make mistakes, and grow from them. At MER, we pride ourselves on creating a supportive, inclusive and ambitious environment where every student is encouraged to reach their full potential.

Over the coming term, we will be sharing key information about the Meet the Tutor evening and other events to keep an eye out for and information on how we will support



you in making a smooth and confident start. We are here every step of the way, and we can't wait to welcome you properly into our community.

Wishing you a wonderful start to this exciting year,

Warmest Regards,

Ms Baxter
Head of Year 7

A Message from your Heads of School

Dear Year 7s,

Welcome to Maiden Erlegh Reading!

As your Head Students, we'd like to warmly welcome you to your new school. Starting secondary school is a big step — it can feel overwhelming at first, but trust us, it quickly becomes a place where you'll grow, make memories, and form friendships that last for years.

We still remember our first days — feeling nervous, getting lost more than once, and wondering how we'd ever settle in. But slowly, it all started to make sense. You'll find your way, just like we did.

Now, as we begin our final year, it's hard to believe how fast time has flown. It feels bittersweet — while we're excited for the future, it's difficult to say goodbye to a school that has shaped us so much. And just as our journey is coming to an end, yours is just beginning.

Make the most of every moment. Be kind, get involved, and don't be afraid to ask for help. You've got this — and we're so excited to see all that you'll achieve.

Wishing you the very best,

Purnika and Akindu
Head Students



The Team

The Year 7 tutor team is one of the most fundamental components of the school partnership in ensuring that the students feel content and nurtured. The tutor team is as follows:

Head of Year	Ms Baxter
Tutor G1	Mrs McCarthy & Miss Nemeth
Tutor G2	Mr Bish
Tutor P1	Mrs Ali & Ms George
Tutor P2	Mr Hetherington & Ms Nakimbugwe
Tutor T1	Miss Thomas & Mrs Edwards
Tutor T2	Mrs Sajad

If your son/daughter has any problems or queries, their tutor should be their first port of call. The tutor team prides itself on ensuring that everyone is working to the best of their ability and that your son/daughter is fulfilling the high expectations that Maiden Erlegh in Reading prides itself upon.

We thank you for your ongoing partnership and support, and we are excited to work together to make this a successful and rewarding year.

Daily Timings

Tutor Time	08:40 - 9:10
Period 1	09:10 - 10:10
Period 2	10:10 - 11:10
Break	11:10 - 11:35
Period 3	11:35 - 12:35
Period 4	12:35 - 14:10
Period 5	14:10 - 15:10

Homework

While we encourage students to take responsibility for meeting deadlines and managing their time, a little parental help with planning personal study at the beginning of the year would be most appreciated. As a school we set all personal study on 'ClassCharts' and 'Google Classroom'. Please ensure that you speak to your child about upcoming homework deadlines and support them in achieving these.



Attendance and Punctuality

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents and students of the importance of good attendance and punctuality to both school and lessons. It is imperative that students arrive on time and are **READY** to make the most of their learning opportunities.

95%	=	40 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	80 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	120 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	160 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

Key Dates for Year

There are a few important dates that you will need to be aware of, and we ask that you avoid making appointments at these times.

- **Tuesday 30th September: Meet the Tutor Evening**
- **Wednesday 17th December: Student Progress Day**
- **Tuesday 24th March: Year 7 Progress Evening**

Finally, I am incredibly proud of the way in which the year group presented themselves at Transition Day. I look forward to working in partnership with you, to ensure an excellent experience for your child in Year 7.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need help or support. I can be reached by emailing j.baxter@maidenerleghtrust.org or MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org

With warm regards,
MER Pastoral Team

