

Friday 5 September 2025

Dear Students / Parent / Guardian

Welcome Back Letter

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](#).

A message from Mrs Cotton

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome your child to their final academic year at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading. It goes without saying that the year ahead is their most important yet and with this in mind, it's key that they return rested and prepared.

This year, I would like for all Year 11s to make it their goal to develop a growth mindset. A growth mindset is resilient; it is open to challenges, welcomes feedback and seeks new opportunities. It is more difficult to adopt and sustain than a fixed mindset, but it is the perspective and attitude that will lead them to success.

Every student has time to improve, time to consolidate and time to secure and, with the encouragement of school and home, I firmly believe all Year 11 will leave with a



wonderfully bright future ahead. Please communicate with the school over the months to come and we will do our best to support your child – personally and academically.

Wishing all students the very best as they write their final chapters at Maiden Erlegh School in Reading.

The Team

The Year 11 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	Mrs Cotton
Tutor G1	Mrs Taylor and Miss Nemeth
Tutor G2	Mr Mitchell
Tutor P1	Mrs Roberts and Ms Trafford
Tutor P2	Mr Blakeway
Tutor T1	Miss Hancock
Tutor T2	Miss Murphy and Mr Wheeler
KS4 Phase Leads	Mrs Khan and Mr Saunders

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	ATTENDANCE MATTERS WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN? BE SMART BE THERE! <small>Percentages based on 190 academic days</small>
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	

Key Dates for Year

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

Year 11 Information Evening (Ready, Set, Succeed) - Thursday 16 October 2025
Student Progress Day – Wednesday 17 December 2025
Y11 Progress Evening – Thursday 8 January 2026

Finally, we are incredibly proud of the way in which the year group presented themselves at the beginning of this term. We look forward to working in partnership with you, to ensure an excellent experience for your child in Year 11.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need help or support. Mrs Cotton can be reached by emailing MERoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org and putting FAO Mrs Cotton into the subject line.

With warm regards,
MER Pastoral Team

