



St. Edmund's Girls' School



Wyvern College

5.9.18

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you had a restful and relaxing summer and that your child had a good first day back. Staff returned on Monday for two days of training and preparation and we have very much enjoyed seeing our students again today.

I am delighted to share with you that we are celebrating a record year of results at both schools. Wyvern students achieved record-breaking results: the best in history, with passes in English and Maths up by 18% and passes in Science up by 34%! St Edmund's remains on top form, with students equalling our best ever results. 74% of students passed English and Maths with grade 4 or above and 52% passed with grade 5 or above (an increase of 9% on last year's already excellent pass rate). We are thrilled for those students and I am pleased to announce that with the GCSE results achieved we are hopeful that both St Edmund's and Wyvern College will place at the top of the Wiltshire comprehensive schools and in the top 20% of schools nationally in terms of the Progress 8 score. This will be formally validated by the Department for Education later in the year. I would like to congratulate all our Year 11 students and thank all of the staff at both schools for everything they did to support those students.

The early entry GCSE English results were also excellent. 70% of all Year 11 students at Wyvern and at St Edmund's have already passed their GCSE English, having sat their exam early at the end of Year 10. Many congratulations to them.

As you know, we have begun our journey as the Wyvern-St Edmund's Learning Campus and have now co-located most departments across the two school sites. Students were so positive yesterday and it was wonderful to see boys and girls mixing at social times.

Please note staff emails have all been changed so please be aware of that; the beginning of the email address remains the same, but all staff are now contactable using the email ending @wyvernsted.org ([these can be found on the school websites.](#)) As always, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance with any queries or concerns.

The most important change for students to digest is the change to the Behaviour Policy. I wrote to you last term to outline the very firm approach that we will take towards any poor behaviour in the classroom. Every child has the right to disruption-free learning, and as such any student who is not meeting expectations in the classroom will be removed from a lesson and isolated for the equivalent of a day if they do not amend their behaviour after one clear warning. If your child is removed from a lesson and placed in isolation, the teacher will attempt to contact you once by phone to give you a brief overview of the incident. If they are unable to reach you, they will leave a voicemail message or

send you an email, so please make sure your contact details are up to date. Please trust that teachers will only use this sanction if your child is deserving of it; we would prefer that all students remain in the classroom, learning with their peers and enjoying the excellent teaching that is provided for them, but we cannot accept the learning of others being disrupted.

Summer has been hugely busy with many changes to the IT infrastructure to improve our capabilities and also to ensure that the IT systems work in unison across the whole site. We have had some software issues with the cashless catering system in the canteen but your child has been issued a pin number to use for purchasing food which will be set up until the fingerprint system goes live in the next few weeks.

We have made many other site improvements too. As you know, our number one priority is the welfare and safeguarding of your child. As such, we have changed the road layout at the front of school. Double yellow lines have been painted along the path at the front of school to prevent parking. This does include morning drop-offs and afternoon pick-ups; please do not park, even for a short time, on the double yellow lines. Over the last term, I became increasingly concerned about students darting between the parked cars to cross through the car park. We have also installed railings and a pedestrian crossing to allow students safe passage to and from the site onto Church Road. I would politely request that you do not come onto school site at any time to pick up or drop off your child; this is to ensure your child stays safe and to help reduce the car park gridlock. Please expect to be challenged by staff if you do so.

Please remember that your child will not be supervised at school until 7.45am so please do not drop them off before this time. Between 7.45am and 8am students must stay in the dining hall until the 8am bell rings and they may go to their tutor rooms.



Changes to the site to improve safety

The kitchen at St Edmund's has had a long overdue refurbishment over the summer, thanks to funds gained from a bid we submitted to the Conditions Improvement Fund for schools. We are bidding again this year for a forward extension to the dining hall and to the central reception area so that we can increase the seating capacity further. This is for the use of all students across the learning campus. Outside the dining hall, we have created a covered outdoor space to provide extra seating for lunch and break times. This will ensure that students have an extra space to be at social times, where they are protected from any inclement weather.



The 'Garden Room' outside the dining hall

The vision for Wyvern-St Edmund's is simple: we want every student to be the very best version of themselves that they can be. Our focus is threefold: **safeguarding**, maximising **progress** and **preparing** your child for their future. We prioritise your child's welfare and safety, we teach great lessons and we prepare them for life after school by offering opportunities for them to find their passion and their talent through trips, enrichment and excellent careers advice. Both Wyvern and St Edmund's are Church of England schools and so at the heart of all we do is the fundamental Christian principle of love; caring for all in our school community and wanting the very best for everyone.

I look forward to working in partnership with you as parents and carers in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Nicola Bull

Headteacher

