

8 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm delighted to share that our students continue to make an exceptionally strong start to the new academic year. Across all year groups, we have seen impressive levels of enthusiasm, maturity, and engagement in learning. It has been a pleasure to see classrooms full of energy and focus. As we move into the heart of the autumn term, I would like to take a moment to share some updates from across our school community.

New Year Teams – Supporting Every Student

This year, we've introduced new 'Year Teams' to strengthen the support available to students and ensure every child feels known, valued, and well-guided throughout their school journey. These teams are already making a positive impact by fostering strong relationships, promoting wellbeing, and helping students stay focused on their learning.

Year 7

- Head of Year: Miss Raynes
- Assistant Head of Year: Miss Harrison
- Leadership Link: Mrs Bover

Years 8 & 9

- Head of Year: Miss Huddleston
- Assistant Head of Year: Mr Bentley
- Leadership Link: Mr Fletcher

Years 10 & 11

- Head of Year: Mr Gould
- Assistant Head of Year: Miss Phipps
- Leadership Link: Mrs Welsh

Community Cupboard – Everyone Welcome

Every Tuesday at 2:30pm, Mrs Bover hosts our *Community Cupboard* in the school library. Families are warmly invited to drop in for free perishable items, a hot drink, and a friendly chat. It is a simple but meaningful way to support our school community, and also provides a relaxed space for parents and carers to raise any questions or share feedback about school life. We look forward to welcoming you.

Celebrating Music Mark Recognition

We are proud to announce that Parkside Community School has been awarded the Music Mark by the Derby & Derbyshire Music Partnership. This prestigious recognition celebrates our commitment to high-quality music education and the incredible talent of our students and our music teacher Mrs Allsop. Well done everyone!

Equipment and Readiness to Learn

A gentle reminder: students should arrive each day fully equipped for learning. Their equipment packs help to create a calm and focused learning environment. If you need support sourcing equipment, please contact us – we are here to help.

Homework and Satchel One

Homework plays a vital role in reinforcing classroom learning and developing independent study habits. All homework is set via Satchel One, our online platform. We encourage parents/carers to regularly check Satchel One and support their child in meeting deadlines. If you need help accessing the platform, please contact us.

New School Reception – E Block Development

We are excited to share that construction is underway on our new school reception, located in the old E Block at the far end of the car park. This modern, welcoming space will improve accessibility and enhance the visitor experience. We hope to complete the project by Christmas and will keep you updated on progress.

World Mental Health Day – Friday 10 October

To mark World Mental Health Day, students will receive yellow ribbon stickers in mentor groups. They will also have the chance to purchase yellow-themed items from the rewards shop during Friday brunch – including food, stationery, and gifts – using their Arbor points. At the Support Centre, students can create a personal pledge of kindness to be displayed in the window, promoting positivity and wellbeing across our school.

Year 11 Prom – Friday 3 July 2026

We are pleased to confirm that the Year 11 Prom will take place on Friday 3 July 2026 at The Ringwood Hotel and Spa. The Prom is a special celebration of students' hard work and achievements. As in previous years, it is an invite-only event. Expectations for an invite include good school attendance, positive behaviour, homework completion, intervention participation, and an excellent attitude to learning – these have been shared with students via the *Prom Passport*. Our aim is for every student to attend; we will support them to the best of our ability to meet the criteria.

Have Your Say – Support Our Police Cadets!

Derbyshire's Police and Crime Commissioner wants to hear your views through the 'Listening to You' survey. This is a great opportunity to share your thoughts on policing, community safety, and local priorities. There is also a friendly competition between Police Cadets to collect the most completed surveys. To support one of our students, please complete the survey using the link below and enter Police Cadet collar number 26236 when prompted.

Complete the Survey Here: <http://qrco.de/DerbyshireListening2U>

Thank you for helping shape a safer Derbyshire and supporting our young cadets.

Stay Connected

We love sharing the successes and stories of our students and staff. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter/X, and Instagram – just search for *Parkside Community School Chesterfield* – to stay up to date with news, events, and celebrations.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully
Mr Andy Kelly
Headteacher