



Cardinal Langley RC High School

Headteacher: Mr A Bridson B.Sc. (Hons)

15th September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am pleased to welcome all students back to school following the Summer break and we especially welcome those joining us in Year 7 and Year 12.

I would like to congratulate all students on their excellent Sixth Form and GCSE results; I am confident that they will continue to be successful in the next step of their educational journey.

The start of an academic year brings new opportunities and this year we are delighted to open our new De La Salle Centre. This has further enhanced the learning facilities for our students and provides a dedicated Year 7 form base, IT facilities, Social Science teaching rooms, additional yard and dining facilities as well as access to a garden area.

At Cardinal Langley, we have high expectations of all of our students and appreciate the high level of support we receive from parents and carers. This year we are focusing particularly on the pride that students take in their academic work, appearance and behaviour and I am sure I can rely on your continued support throughout this academic year.

At the start of the year, there are a number of items which I would like to draw to your attention.

Term dates and a summary of key school events are included at the end of this letter, but there are some upcoming dates that I wanted to highlight:-



Thursday 22nd September, 6:30-8:30pm: Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 29th September, 3:30-6:30pm: Year 7 & 12 Settling-in Evening
Thursday 6th October, 7:00pm: Year 7 Welcome Mass
Wednesday 19th October: students finish at 1:30pm (staff training)
Thursday 24th November, 3:30-6:30pm: Year 10 Parents' Evening
Monday 5th December: school is closed (school holiday)

The VIVO system was introduced last year and enables teachers to reward students for their hard work. All students have access to their points total and the reason for them being awarded, either through the VIVO website or by downloading the app. VIVO points can be exchanged for rewards or donated to one of the charities that the school supports.



At Cardinal Langley we are committed to ensuring that every young person *'lives life to the full'* and I encourage all students to make the most of the academic and extra-curricular opportunities available to them.

A full list of clubs and activities can be found at www.clrchs.co.uk



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Uniform

Students are proud to attend Cardinal Langley and I have been very impressed by the high standard of uniform since the start of term. I am sure I can rely on your continued support throughout the year. The uniform policy can be found on the school website and there is also specific guidance regarding acceptable shoes. If there are any doubts about the suitability of certain items then please do not hesitate to contact the school before you purchase them.

As a school we are aware that uniform items can be a strain on family budgets and we always endeavour for items to be of best value. We regularly review our uniform supply arrangements and if you have any feedback regarding the availability, quality or affordability of school uniform items please let me know either by letter through the school office or by emailing admin@clrchs.co.uk

Based on Langley, **The Angel Project** is an initiative to re-sell donated items of uniform at reasonable prices. More information can be found on the 'Uniform' page of the school website.

Another Excellent Year for GCSE and A-level Results!

This Summer saw another outstanding set of GCSE and Sixth Form results and these are a testament to the motivation and commitment of the students and the support and encouragement of staff, parents and carers.

In the Sixth Form we achieved a pass rate of 99% with 61% of all grades either A*-B or Distinction*. Performance in vocational subjects was again outstanding with the average grade being a Distinction* which places us in the top 10% of providers nationally. These outstanding results were key to ensuring that students were able to fulfil their ambitions of either gaining a place at university, starting an apprenticeship or entering employment. We wish all of our students every success for the future.

At GCSE, 71% of students achieved 5+ A*-C grades with 54% achieving the benchmark including English and Maths. The percentage of A*-C grades was 73% and we are particularly pleased that over a third of students achieved greater than expected progress. This is an excellent set of results and reflects the hard work and dedication shown throughout the exam preparations.

Open Evenings

If your child is considering his/her next move into further education, our Sixth Form Open Evening is on Thursday 22nd September from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Students will be able to find out more information regarding the courses on offer.

If you are considering applying for a Year 7 place for your child here at Cardinal Langley, our Open Evening for 2017 entry took place in the Summer term but if you missed this opportunity, or would like to visit again, we are planning an Information Session on Thursday 22nd September starting at 4:00pm. This will provide an opportunity to tour the school and have any questions/queries answered. If you would like to attend, please email us at admin@clrchs.co.uk and we will send further information.



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Attendance and Punctuality

Good attendance is essential to your child's academic success. The school aims for 100% attendance with an overall rate of at least 96% expected. Attendance levels below 90% give us serious cause for concern.

Changes to regulations came about in September 2013 and Headteachers are no longer able to grant any absence during term time unless there are 'exceptional circumstances'. The new law does not give any entitlement to parents and carers to take their child on holiday during term time and the school is not permitted to grant leave of absence for family holidays or other similar recreational activities.

Punctuality to school and to lessons is also important, as it is indicative of a student's general motivation and commitment towards school. If your son or daughter has a long journey to school, please make sure that they leave in sufficient time to allow for traffic conditions or delays to the buses or trains.

If you do need to request leave of absence for your child during term time, please fill in a *Term-Time Absence Request Form* and return it to Student Services in the School Office, giving sufficient notice.

Unauthorised absence is recorded and may result in intervention by the Education Welfare Service, which could include the issue of a Penalty Notice. For more information, please refer to our Attendance Policy and the Local Authority's Penalty Notice Protocol, available from the school website.

School Bus Services

The timetable for the school bus services to and from Cardinal Langley RC High School is published by Transport for Greater Manchester and can be found on the following page of the school website: <http://www.clrchs.co.uk/parents-students/school-bus-services/>

Daily and weekly saver tickets are available from the driver. Children aged 11-16 require an igo pass in order to pay the concessionary fare on public transport within Greater Manchester. Information about igo passes can be found on the following webpage <http://igo.tfgm.com/>

Students aged 16-19 can apply for a Scholar's Pass. For more information and full terms and conditions please visit the following page of the TfGM website: http://www.tfgm.com/journey_planning/Tickets/Pages/tickets_concessionary.aspx

School Meals

The cost of a standard meal-deal has increased to £2.05 with effect from 1st September 2016.

Up to 1.8 million children in the UK are entitled to free school meals but more than 330,000 pupils do not get their entitlement, often because parents are not aware that they are eligible. For more information about free school meals, please contact Student Services in the School Office or visit the RMBC webpage:

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/schools-and-education/Pages/free-school-meals.aspx>

This year we are investing in a system called ParentPay which enables parents to pay for school meals and school activities through a secure website. This is currently being used by parents of Year 7 students and will be rolled out to other year groups later this term. The machines that students use to top up their accounts are still available but these do not accept the new £5 note and when the new £10 and £20 note are introduced, these machines will be phased out. Please ensure that students have the correct money they wish to load onto their account as we do not have the facility to offer change.



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Privacy Notice – Data Protection Act 1998

Cardinal Langley RC High School is a data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act. We do not share information with anyone outside the school without your consent, unless the law and our rules require us to. You can view the current Privacy Notice under the *Policies* section of the school website.

Road Safety

There is a temporary 20 mph speed limit in effect outside of school during the time when the school crossing patrol is in operation. This is part of the Local Authority's policy for incident reduction and road safety. Please may we stress the need for parents and carers to show care and consideration when dropping off children at school or parking outside of the school building. Please do not park in the disabled bays or obstruct the cycle lane or drives and entrances to neighbouring houses and buildings.

Learning Resources Centre

The Library/Learning Resources Centre (LRC) operates a "Breakfast Club" before school from 7:15am to 8:15am every morning, as well as offering support to students with their homework and independent study and providing a quiet environment for those who simply enjoy books and reading.

If you as a parent or carer would like to know how better to support your child with their exams and studies, or if you have any particular concerns, please contact the relevant subject teacher or Head of Year.

Finally, may I once again thank you for your continued support and your trust in our commitment to providing the best education for your child in a Catholic, caring environment.

If you require this information in a different format, please contact the school's main office for support.

Yours faithfully,

A Bridson
Headteacher



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School Diary Dates 2016-17

School Holidays	(The school is closed to students)
Autumn Half Term	Monday 24 th October to Friday 28 th October (Back to school on Monday 31 st October)
Well-Being Day	Monday 5 th December
Christmas	Friday 23 rd December to Friday 6 th January (Back to school on Monday 9 th January)
Spring Half Term	Monday 20 th February to Friday 24 th February (Back to school on Monday 27 th February)
Easter	Friday 14 th April to Monday 24 th April (Back to school on Tuesday 25 th April)
Bank Holiday	Monday 1 st May
Summer Half Term	Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June (Back to school on Monday 5 th June)
Staff Inset Day	Friday 30 th June
School breaks up for Summer holiday on Friday 14 th July 2017	

Well-Being Day: This is just a reminder, especially for our new Year 7 students, that **Monday 5th December** is Well-Being Day. Traditionally taken at the end of November or beginning of December, this is part of the school holiday pattern. **Would parents/carers please note that the school is closed to students on this day.**

Staff Inset Days: Would parents and carers please note that **Friday 30th June** is a staff inset day and **the school will be closed to students.**

Year 7 & Y12 Settling-In Evening Year 7 Welcome Mass

Thursday 29th September; 3:30pm-6:30pm
Thursday 6th October; 7:00pm-8:30pm

Open Events

Year 6 Information Evening (2017 Admissions)
Sixth Form Open Evening
Year 5 Open Evening (2018 Admissions)

Thursday 22nd September; 4:00pm
Thursday 22nd September; 6:30pm-8:30pm
Thursday 29th June; 6:30pm-8:30pm

Parents' Evenings

Year 10
Year 9
Year 11
Year 7
Year 8
Year 12 & 13

(3:30pm-6:30pm)
Thursday 24th November
Wednesday 30th November
Thursday 19th January
Wednesday 8th February
Thursday 6th April
Tuesday 11th April

Examinations

GCSE November Series
Year 11 Pre-Public Exams
Year 12/13 Pre-Public
January Exam Series
Year 11 Pre-Public Exams
March Exam Series
Year 12/13 Pre-Public Exams
GCSE & GCE Summer Series
Year 10 Mock Exams

1st November to 4th November
5th December to 14th December
9th January to 17th January
11th January to 17th January
27th February to 8th March
27th February
Commence 13th March
15th May to 28th June
19th June to 23rd June