







# MAIDEN ERLEGH

## SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson

MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)

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Dear Parent/Guardian

## Parents and School – Working Together as a Team

### Working in Partnership

We understand how important it is for the school and parents to work together to support the students at our school. We are pleased to say that, with the vast majority of families, the relationship is a positive one where we work together to achieve the very best for their child. We always work on the principal of a three-legged stool – the school, parents and students – and if one of these legs are removed or the load is not equally balanced, the whole thing falls down. The staff work incredibly hard to support students, and we need your help in making sure the message is the same at home.

### Praise

We are keen to praise our students and reward positive behaviour in school. Students are now earning lots of house points, which our house captains are monitoring closely. The house assemblies are due to take place soon and our first rewards trips are already planned. I, Mr Gibson, look forward to meeting with students, over a hot chocolate when staff nominate them for 'Student of the Week', and we will be sending information home about awards evenings later in the year. Please check your My Child At School (MCAS) App as the house point notifications are sent to you each day.

### Uniform & Equipment

Almost all of our students have made a brilliant start to the school year in terms of uniform. They look smart and are wearing their uniform properly. We have conducted uniform checks and communicated home, where issues have arisen. We will continue to do this throughout the term. All students are expected to wear blazers, and they should not be wearing a sports top or hoodies at any time. If this is the case, these items will be placed in reception and a spare coat offered for the day. Nose studs are also something that pupils appear to have gained over the summer and we ask that these are removed for the school day.

In addition to ensuring that your son/daughter is wearing the correct uniform, can we ask that you take 5 minutes and ask to see their pencil case to check they have the correct equipment for learning. We are keen to make the most of all learning time and not waste time giving out pens, rulers and glue sticks wherever possible. This stifles the flow of lessons and hinders a swift start to learning.

### Detentions

When we have to, unfortunately, set a detention, we do this in one of two ways. A teacher can set a 15-minute detention on the same day and have a short conversation with the student about an issue that has occurred. If the issue is more serious and we have to set a 1-hour detention, we will give you 24 hours' notice of this. We have simplified our detention system, so they are held in a single location (H Block) after school for 1 hour and supervised by members of our leadership team. If a student fails to attend this detention, we provide a second chance. If they fail to attend again, then we will remove them from lessons for half a day to spend time working in our reflection room. All notifications about detentions are sent to you on the MCAS App, so it is very important that you have set this up. If you need more details about a detention, please contact the relevant Head of Year. Should you need help setting up the MCAS app, please email [mesmcas@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:mesmcas@maidenerleghtrust.org).

### **E-Scooters**

As Christmas approaches, can we remind you that e-scooters have not been legalised in Wokingham for use on the public roads or paths. They are not allowed onto the school site and if they are found, the site team will lock them away, and you will be contacted to collect them. Please can you ensure that these remain at home.

### **Home School Communication**


We have listened to your feedback about the number of emails and try to consolidate our communications to you so that we send as few emails as possible. In addition, the Headteacher video update each week allows you to learn about the week using a different method. When we receive emails, we have a 72-hour policy to turn these around. This is in place to protect staff and allow them to focus on the two most important things, keeping children safe and educating them to a high level. Please can I ask that, unless urgent, you do not chase emails until the 72 hours has passed.

Thank you so much for your support. I am incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of #TeamMaidenErlegh and during COVID, we made great strides to work together as a community. Let us keep that spirit of teamwork going!

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gibson  
Headteacher



Mrs S Bendall  
Deputy Headteacher