

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

**Re: Academic Year 2024-25**

As we begin the new academic year of 2024/25, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all. I would also like to express my gratitude to all parents and carers for preparing your daughters for this new school year. Setting high standards and expectations regarding uniform, presentation, and behaviour helps students develop the skills needed for the wider world, equipping them with essential future employability skills. We have a busy and exciting year ahead, filled with many enriching activities and opportunities to look forward to over the next twelve months.

**Summer Updates**

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all Year 11 and Year 13 students on their fantastic GCSE and A Level results. Most Year 13 students have successfully secured their first-choice or insurance offer at various universities across the country, alongside excellent placements at colleges, degree apprenticeships, and other training providers. The majority of our Year 11 students will be returning to our Sixth Form, and we wish them all the very best as they embark on this next chapter of their educational journey.

Additionally, I would like to take a moment to congratulate our former student, Katarina Johnson-Thompson, for her remarkable performance at the Olympic Games in Paris. She remains an exceptional ambassador for our school community and serves as an inspiring role model for young women everywhere.

During the summer break, the school has been bustling with various projects. Early in the holidays, we hosted a highly successful summer school for our new Year 7 students and a coffee morning for parents, warmly welcoming the newest members of our school community.

Several areas of the school have been refreshed, with new paintwork and carpets. Students will also notice the vibrant new wall art installations in the Humanities, English, and Science areas, featuring visual depictions of key historical events, figures, and concepts that have shaped the world. We have also introduced new recycling units as part of our commitment to CAFOD's Live Simply Campaign and the Faith In Action project. Furthermore, the Sixth Form area has been completely redesigned, featuring silent study pods, collaborative learning zones, individual seating areas, social spaces, and computer stations equipped with laptop and USB access. A new Sixth Form bistro, complete with vending and drinks machines, has also been added to enhance the student experience.

**Supporting Your Daughter's Learning**

To better support your daughter's academic journey, we have made key information about the curriculum, teaching, assessment, PSHE, and homework accessible via the links below. Each booklet provides an overview of what your daughter will be learning each term and how her learning will be assessed.

[KS3 Curriculum Booklet](#)

[KS4 Curriculum Booklet](#)

[KS5 Curriculum Booklet](#)

[PSHE Booklet](#)

In addition, students will receive progression sheets for each unit of work in their exercise books, helping them build knowledge progressively and understand the purpose behind their learning.

If you haven't already downloaded the MCAS (My Child At School) app, we strongly encourage you to do so [using the link provided](#). This tool offers valuable information regarding your daughter's attendance, progress, behaviour, achievements, and includes a direct messaging feature for communicating with the school. Parents of students in Year 7 without siblings higher up in the school will be sent a separate sign up email later in the week and will be unable to use MCAS until then.

Following our Catholic Schools Inspection in February 2024, the report highlighted the following quote: *"Students truly understand and embrace the charism and mission of St. Julie's. They speak with pride about how they live out the Notre Dame values in their daily lives. Students feel valued, supported, safe, happy, and confident."* We remain committed to maintaining these high standards so that our students continue to thrive as confident, independent, and remarkable young women.

### **A Message of Support**

Finally, I want to acknowledge the deep grief and devastation caused by the loss of Elsie-Dot, BeBe, and Alice following the tragic and abhorrent incident in Southport during the summer holidays. As a school, we stand in solidarity with the families, children, teachers, emergency services, primary schools and the wider Southport community during this unimaginable time. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and all those affected.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we work together to ensure your daughter has a successful and fulfilling school year.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs K McCourt

Headteacher