



LITTLE ILFORD SCHOOL

COURAGE • COMMITMENT • COMPASSION

Rectory Road, London, E12 6JB

Tel. 020 8478 8024 | info@littleilford.org | www.littleilford.newham.sch.uk

LinkedIn: Little Ilford School | Instagram: @littleilfordschool

Interim Headteacher:
Jennifer Evans

Date: 18/09/2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our second full week of term, I am writing to you for the first time in my new role as Interim Headteacher. Having served as a Deputy Headteacher at Little Ilford School for the past five years, I know our community well, and I am deeply honoured to step into this position to lead our school into its next chapter.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a particularly warm welcome to our new Year 7 parents and carers joining our Little Ilford family for the first time. Whether you are returning or joining us anew, I am greatly looking forward to working in close partnership with you all to support our students throughout their journey with us.

Please watch this space in the coming weeks for details regarding upcoming parent coffee mornings with me. These will offer an opportunity to meet in person and to see the school in action during a normal working day.

Core Values and Aspirations

During my initial assemblies with students, I spoke directly with them about our core values - Courage, Commitment, and Compassion - and what these look like in our day-to-day lives. I set our students a clear challenge: to strive to be the best version of themselves every single day, focusing simply on being better today than they were yesterday.

To make this vision a reality, we must continue to work closely together. We ask for your ongoing support in:

- Ensuring excellent attendance and punctuality
- Actively engaging with your child regarding their homework
- Attending upcoming information and parents' events
- Working collaboratively with us to overcome any challenges that may arise

Parent Engagement & Key Dates

Strong communication between home and school is vital to your child's success. I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our Year 11 parents and carers who attended the Information Evening on 17th September - it was lovely to meet so many of you, and I hope you found the session informative and helpful.

Please make a note of the following upcoming opportunities to connect with us:

“ All students receive the guidance they need to make ambitious, well-informed choices about their future lives - **OFSTED** ”





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- **Year 11 College Information Evening:** 13th October 2026
- **Year 7 Form Tutor Evening:** 15th October 2026
- **Year 10 Information Evening:** 12th November 2026

Further details and timings for these events will be shared closer to the dates, and we very much look forward to welcoming you into school.

Celebrating Early Successes

We have already had much to celebrate this term, reflecting the hard work of our staff and students:

- **PTI Subject Marks (2026):** Both our Physical Education and Art departments have officially been awarded the PTI Subject Mark for 2026. This prestigious recognition highlights their outstanding work in developing a challenging curriculum, enthusing students through extra-curricular activities, enriching teachers' subject knowledge, and building cross-subject links.
- **PTI Leadership Mark (2026):** The school has also been awarded the PTI Leadership Mark for 2026, recognising our strategic engagement with the PTI Leadership Programme over the past year.
- **UK Youth Parliament Representation:** Congratulations to Gursahaj Dhaliwal (Year 11), who has been elected as the Newham Representative for the UK Youth Parliament. As part of her new role, she recently visited the Houses of Parliament to meet with Prime Minister Andy Burnham.

Important Reminders and Operational Policies

To ensure a safe, focused environment for all students, please take note of the following operational policies:

- **Allergy Policy and Safety:** In accordance with our Student Allergy Policy, Little Ilford School operates a strict restriction on high-risk nut and sesame products to protect students with life-threatening allergies. Packaged raw nuts/trail mixes, bars containing nut segments or sesame oil, spreads (e.g., peanut butter, Nutella, tahini), and nut-based sauces (e.g., satay) **must not** be brought onto school premises. Students should only bring food and small packets of crisps for their own individual consumption and must not share food.
- **Mobile-Free School:** Mobile phones are not permitted for use anywhere on school grounds. If a phone is seen on site, it will be confiscated immediately and only released to a parent or carer at the end of that week (or the next working day if confiscated on a Friday). For repeat instances, the device will be held until the end of term. Please note that parents are not automatically notified upon confiscation. This policy fully aligns with the latest Department for Education (DfE) guidance.
- **Searching and Screening:** In line with government guidance, staff will search a student if there are reasonable grounds to suspect they possess a prohibited item, or

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if consent is given. Additionally, we continue our practice of occasional random screening at the start of the school day using hand-held metal detector wands as a standard preventive measure.

We appreciate that these policies require shared effort and understanding, and we are grateful for your support. They are vital in keeping our school safe, calm, and focused on learning. Thank you, as always, for your partnership, trust, and ongoing commitment to our school community. I look forward to connecting with many of you in person over the coming weeks and working together to ensure a happy, successful academic year for all of our students.

Kind regards,

Ms Evans
Headteacher

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