

### **Moat Community College**

Maidstone Road, Leicester, LE2 0TU Principal Mr. B Killeen 0116 2625705 office@moat.leicester.sch.uk moat.leicester.sch.uk

19th September 2025

## Dear Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to report that the term continues to progress smoothly, with students demonstrating excellent behaviour, focus, and calmness.

## **Open Evening**

We would like to invite you to our Open Evening on **Thursday, 25th September 2025**, from **4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** During this event, we will showcase the many facets of excellence at Moat Community College. Staff will be available to discuss our curriculum, pastoral care, and wider aspects of school life. If you have friends or family interested in applying to Moat, please encourage them to attend.

## Parental Information Event – Thursday 9th October, 4:00 p.m.

You are warmly invited to an information event on **Thursday, 9th October at 4:00 p.m.**, where we will share guidance on careers and progression. A visiting careers expert will present on the various qualification routes available in post-16 education. This event will be particularly relevant for Year 10 and Year 11 parents, though all are welcome.

#### **Dangerous Vapes**

We have previously shared information about the dangers of vaping, especially when young people obtain vapes from untrustworthy sources such as TikTok sellers. These products may contain harmful substances like 'Spice', which pose serious health risks including breathing difficulties, heart attacks, seizures, and hallucinations.

I recently addressed these concerns in a student assembly. Please support us by ensuring your child is not using vapes or purchasing products online that could harm their health.

The BBC has reported on these dangers in detail: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cj3l231xz5ko
The article is well worth reading to understand the risks involved.

## **Attendance**

While Moat Community College remains above the national average for attendance, the pandemic has led to a nationwide decline. Good attendance is essential for academic success and wellbeing.









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We are particularly concerned about extended trips abroad during term time, which result in significant absences. The government has introduced new regulations regarding unauthorised absences, now enforced by the local authority (LA):

- Penalty Notices: From August 2024, fines have increased to £160 per parent per child (discounted to £80 if paid within 21 days).
- Repeat Offences: A second notice within a rolling three-year period will incur the full £160 with no discount.
- **Third Offences:** Further unauthorised absences may lead to prosecution and a potential criminal conviction.

High attendance is directly linked to better exam results and improved wellbeing. We encourage all students to aim for at least **95% attendance**. For context:

- 90% attendance = 4 weeks of missed school annually
- 85% attendance = 8 weeks of missed school annually

Our analysis of the 2025 GCSE results clearly shows that students with high attendance achieved significantly better grades. Please support us by ensuring your child attends regularly, unless there is a valid reason for absence.

## **Driving in Front of the School**

We appreciate the consideration most parents show when driving near the school. To ensure safety for all, please observe the following:

- Avoid parking on pavements to allow safe passage for pedestrians, especially those with pushchairs or mobility aids.
- Do not park on zigzag lines or double yellow lines outside the school, as this
  obstructs visibility and causes congestion.
- Refrain from stopping in the middle of the road to drop off or pick up students. Instead, park safely a short distance away.
- Be patient during peak times. Our staff are present to supervise and ensure student safety.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe environment.

#### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

Year 11 students will begin their mock exams on **Monday, 27th October**. They have made a strong start to the year, and we are optimistic about their results. We will also hold a **Mock Results Day** on **Monday, 24th November**, simulating their final results day. We wish them every success!









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## **Behaviour Policy**

Excellent behaviour is essential for a calm, safe, and productive learning environment. Our robust behaviour policy is applied consistently across the school. Thank you for your continued support in upholding these standards. You can view the policy here:

https://moat.leicester.sch.uk/about-us/policies-and-procedures

### **Holiday Calendar**

The holiday calendar is available on our website. Please note the following closure days during term time:

- Friday, 26th September
- Monday, 1st December
- Monday, 19th March or Friday, 20th March (This closure will coincide with Eid and will be confirmed the evening before.)

# Parents' Evenings

Parental attendance at these evenings is vital for supporting your child's education. We are proud of our strong turnout, typically over 80%. This year's dates are:

- Thursday, 27th November Year 8
- Thursday, 4th December Year 11
- Thursday, 15th January Year 10
- Thursday, 5th February Year 7
- Thursday, 26th March Year 9

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the college. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via the school office.

#### Yours sincerely,

Principal, Moat Community College

Mr B Killeen

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