



Our Lady Queen of Peace

Catholic Engineering College

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4th September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

A warm welcome

Welcome to the start of the Autumn Term and a warm welcome to our new Year 7 parents and students joining Our Lady Queen of Peace for the first time this week. Staff were highly complimentary about the new Y7 students who attended the summer school in August commenting on their enthusiasm and good manners. Approximately 95 students attended the summer school each day. Students enjoyed PE, Dance, Crafts, Science, English, Baking, a Treasure Hunt, Dodgeball and a day out at Ainsdale beach. We hope our new students will settle quickly in the coming days and that they will get fully involved in all aspects of school life.

We look forward to welcoming our existing students and hope that they have had an enjoyable summer break. As they move up a year, I hope they will be good role models for our new Year 7 students and will be ready for the next stage of their learning.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024!

Congratulations to all our Year 11 students! The Class of 2024 have achieved some excellent results in their GCSE examinations. All their hard work, perseverance and determination has paid off. There were many happy faces on Results Day with students then leaving school to go to register for College courses doing BTECs, A Levels and T Levels as well as apprenticeships or traineeships. I wish all our students all the very best as they start out on the next phase of their educational journey.

Overall school performance increased by 5% in English and Maths. The highest performing subjects with large cohorts of students achieving highly were Religious Education, Geography and English Literature. The highest performing vocational subjects were Travel & Tourism and Sports Science. Students achieved Grade 9s (the very highest A* grade possible) in a range of subjects including Religious Education, English Language, English Literature and Geography and in vocational courses there were Distinction * grades in Engineering. In Religious Education 19% of grades were Grades 9-7 (equivalent to Grades A*/A). In Sports Studies 24% of students achieved the highest grades. These are tremendous achievements and I look forward to seeing these outcomes increase further year on year.

Staffing

Our staff are key to the success of the school. Our existing staff are hard-working and committed and I am very appreciative of all that they do for our school community. I am delighted that they will be joined by a number of new staff starting with us in September 2024. As a result, I am proud to say that we have a **full team of staff** who are excited to work together to give the best to our students at Our Lady Queen of Peace. Our new staff bring with them passion and enthusiasm as well as experience from other schools. They are looking forward to meeting our students and getting to know them and their families.



In Christ We Grow

'As a learning community, we live out our Mission Statement striving for excellence through caring, sharing and achieving'.

On the **Senior Leadership Team**, we have two new members of staff:

Mr C. Thomas	Deputy Headteacher
Ms D. Field	School Business Manager

In order to put teaching and learning at the forefront of our curriculum developments, we have a newly formed team of three **Lead Practitioners of Teaching & Learning**:

Mrs D. Poorkhataie	Lead Practitioner of English
Mr J. Davies	Lead Practitioner of Maths
Mrs L. Lawlor	Lead Practitioner of Modern Languages

We also have several new specialist **subject teachers**:

Ms K. Aissatou	Teacher of French
Mr A. Brigden	Teacher of Science
Mr P. Disley	Teacher of Art
Mr D. Fyldes	Teacher of English
Mr M. Evans	Teacher of PE
Ms. B. Glover	Teacher of English
Ms G. Griffiths	Teacher of Technology
Mr S. Hughes	Teacher of History
Mr A. Peckham	Subject Leader of Music
Ms S. Preston	Teacher of Maths
Mr J. Taylor	Behaviour Manager
Ms E. Williams	Teacher of Geography
Ms E. Wright	Teacher of Computer Science

We welcome a number of **associate staff** in new roles:

Ms G. Banks	Y8 Pastoral Support Assistant
Mr J. Baron	Chaplain
Ms J. Cuff	Teaching Assistant Level 3
Ms E. Hewitt	Student Services
Ms L. Doran-Collins	Cover Teacher

Our Pastoral teams play a key role in delivering strong pastoral care to our students. Each student is allocated to a form group. Each form is supported by a year group Learning Manager and a Pastoral Assistant. The Learning Managers and Pastoral Support Assistants for each year group are listed below:

Year	Learning Manager	PSA
7	Mrs T. Poskitt	Mrs S. Quane
8	Mr T. Hudson	Ms G. Banks
9	Mrs H. Roby	Miss O. Jones
10	Mrs K. Leicester	Mrs C. Snead
11	Mrs K. Knight	Mrs K. Batchelor

Communication

Our Lady Queen of Peace is committed to fostering a positive relationship with parents /carers. Crucial to this is building and maintaining effective ongoing communication between the school and parents/carers about the student's academic performance and personal wellbeing.

The school phone number is: [01695 725635](tel:01695725635)
The school email is: mail@olqp.lancs.sch.uk

Please consider the following when contacting school.

Consider which communication method is best for the situation – some conversations are best face to face, whilst others, given their nature, may be quickly resolved over the phone or via the 'Contact Us' form on our website or via email.

If the concern is urgent or is related to safeguarding, personal safety or bullying, please ensure that this is made clear in the communication so that it can be dealt with as a priority.

Our office hours are 08.00-16.30 - staff are not expected to be available in the evenings or at weekends.

We will respond within 2 working days – For non-urgent communication, we will endeavour to respond to parents / carers within 2 working days. The greatest challenge we face is the high volume of communications. We will prioritise communications based on need but must stress that if a member of staff is teaching all day, a response may not be possible until the following day. Teachers' responsibilities extend beyond the classroom and they may be in meetings or leading extra-curricular activities after school. There may be times that we are able to respond sooner than this; however, there may also be times when school is exceptionally busy, when this timescale is not achievable.

Appointments with staff must be booked in advance - this is to avoid disappointment. Many of our staff will be teaching or in meetings during the course of a school day. Anyone arriving to reception unannounced will be advised to book an appointment, unless the matter is deemed an emergency.

All communication should be polite and respectful

Who to Contact

Pastoral concerns

Contact **your child's form tutor**

An internal referral may be made by the form tutor to the learning manager or Deputy Headteacher i/c Pastoral

Academic concerns

Contact **your child's subject teacher**

An internal referral may be made by the subject teacher to the subject leader or Deputy Headteacher i/c Curriculum

Safeguarding Concerns

The Senior Safeguarding Lead is:

Mrs Evans s.evans@olqp.lancs.sch.uk

The Deputy Safeguarding Leads are:

Mr Diamond (Key Stage 4)

Mrs Downing (Key Stage 3)

SEND concerns

Mr Diamond (SENDCo)

g.diamond@olqp.lanacs.sch.uk

Whilst staff will always do their best to act in the best interests of our students, if a parent / carer has a concern or a complaint, please contact the school direct so it can be dealt with and resolved in the right way. Please see the Complaints link on the school website.

We respectfully ask that social media, whether public or private, is not used to voice complaints about staff, parents or pupils, post defamatory or libellous comments or bring the school into disrepute.

School Expectations

During the first week of term, assemblies will be held and students will be reminded of our School Expectations for Attendance, Behaviour and Curriculum. They underpin the school aims to have a calm, orderly working environment where students can thrive in their academic work.

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Catholic Engineering College

SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

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ATTENDANCE	BEHAVIOUR	CURRICULUM
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be here2. Be on time3. Be ready <p>Every Day Counts....</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be respectful2. Be responsible3. Be kind <p></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be attentive2. Be hardworking3. Be resilient <p></p>

'In Christ We Grow'
As a learning community, we live out our Mission Statement striving for excellence through caring, sharing and achieving

Students will also be reminded about our School Values: **Respect, Responsibility & Resilience** and asked to reflect on our School Mission Statement: 'In Christ We Grow' and what this means for each individual as they go about their daily lives.

Attendance

As we start the new academic year, every child should aim to achieve 100% attendance or at least be in line with or exceed the school target of 97% attendance. Please ensure that your child arrives on time, in correct full school uniform and ready for learning with a bag, pen and Knowledge Organiser. If you need any support in getting your child into school, please contact the attendance team and they will be happy to help. Mr Diamond, Assistant Headteacher will be overseeing attendance this year.

Behaviour

Mrs Downing, Deputy Headteacher in charge of Pastoral Care will also be in charge of behaviour this academic year, following the retirement of Mr Turpin. This year we are introducing a 'Behaviour for Learning Curriculum' linked to our School Values. Further information will be sent out to parents / carers in the coming weeks.

Parent/Carer Information Evenings

During September, there will be Information Evenings for all parents / carers in all Year Groups. These meetings will give parents/carers vital information on the curriculum and pastoral care in their year group and they will be able to meet key staff. These will take place on the following dates:

Year 10	Tuesday 10 th September 2024	6pm
Year 11	Thursday 12 th September 2024	6pm
Year 9	Tuesday 17 th September 2024	6pm
Year 7	Thursday 19 th September 2024	6pm
Year 8	Thursday 29 th September 2024	6pm

Burst Pipe

Yesterday, on 3rd September 2024, there was a burst pipe in the Science Department corridor which has caused water to flood classrooms in Science, Technology, Engineering and Art overnight. Repairs have been done. The site team and cleaning team have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the rooms are ready for students today. Over time, further improvements will be made to the building in these areas.

Dates for your Diary

Open Evening	Tuesday 24 th September 2024	5pm
Year 7 Welcome Mass	Friday 27 th September 2024	2pm

Yours sincerely



Mrs M. Henshaw
Headteacher