



# ST PAUL'S ACADEMY

14<sup>th</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents/ Carers

I would like to welcome you all back at the start of a new academic year and I would like to provide you with some important information.

## **Examination Results: Summer 2017**

St Paul's Academy are pleased to report on the successful and well deserved examination results of our students.

This is the first year the Reformed GCSE specifications for Mathematics and English have been assessed. All schools across the UK have experienced the implementation of teaching the more rigorous and challenging content of these Reformed GCSEs which have a higher threshold of achievement. We are delighted to announce that 76.1% of students achieved a 4 or above in Mathematics, 71.7% in English Literature and 70% in English Language. This means that we can report that 68% of our students achieved the expected 4 and above in English and Mathematics. Early indications show that these results are significantly above the national average. These results will also provide us with the confidence to successfully embed the other Reformed GCSE courses in September and will enable us to build on the proven success of accurately tracking pupil progress.

There are many curriculum areas that have achieved amazing results. 100% of students who sat the ICT qualification in Year 11 received a Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction\*. We are also delighted to report 100% A\* – C results in Physics and Biology, with 95.2% in Chemistry. In our first year of introducing Statistics, a most creditable 72% of students received A\* – C grades. Religious Studies and History have produced yet another set of excellent results, outperforming their national average.

Such high quality results are testament to the dedication of our staff to the students at St. Paul's Academy. One of the outstanding strengths of our school is the aspirational and hardworking ethos that is promoted by staff, embraced by students and supported by families. The opportunities to attend holiday and Saturday booster sessions and to sit Walking Talking Mocks have been of enormous benefit. The exam season this year was one of the best on school record in terms of preparation from staff and in terms of student confidence. Our students' motivation and self-esteem have been boosted throughout the year, not only in curriculum areas but by the Inclusion Learning Zone, the Raising Standards team and pastoral staff in preparing them not only for the exams but for their Post - 16 pathways.

We continue to value our belief in the merits of early entry qualifications and advocate students sitting exams early when appropriate and where possible which is borne out by a fantastic 100% of the Year 10 cohort who sat their Mathematics achieving a 4 or above. The picture was similar

in PE where 97% of students achieved a C or above. 68% of students achieved a 4 or above in English Language, in line with the Year 11 result which is significantly above national average. This provides the majority of the year group the opportunity in English to focus solely on their Literature paper. As we further embed the Reformed GCSE course, we can forecast excellent results in this subject next year. In Mathematics, every single early entry student will now be able to prepare for a further qualification in Mathematics, which is a great opportunity for them especially in preparing for possible further study in their Post – 16 pathway.

The staff of St. Paul's Academy continue to strive to do their very best for all students, regardless of their ability and in all aspects of the school community. The collegiality of staff is another outstanding strength of the school and the hard work and dedication of both staff and students alike is to be celebrated and commended.

We are delighted with the examination results of our students and offer them our heartfelt congratulations on all that they have achieved in their five years at St. Paul's and wish them every possible success as they embark on the next stage of their education.

Very well done Class of 2017.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

For the new academic year, the academy has set an attendance target of 97% and I know that you will fully support us in achieving this target. If your son or daughter is absent from school for any reason, you must inform the school office before 8.15am. On the day your son or daughter returns to school after an absence, they must bring a letter to their form tutor giving the details of their absence or an e-mail can be sent to our Attendance Co-ordinator, Mrs Gina Gotts on [gina.gotts@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:gina.gotts@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk).

The school day commences at 8.15am. I would be grateful if you would ensure that your sons and daughters are on the campus by 8.00am. Students who arrive after 8.15am will be marked late and will be at risk of sanctions.

### **The ParentPay System**

This system is working very successfully and allows Parents/Carers to top up students' swipe cards online with a credit or debit card; the Academy will not accept any cash payments for school meals. Payments made online are transferred to student cards within 30 minutes. To begin using the system at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) you will need to use the username and password that has been sent to you. If you need any assistance with Parent Pay, please contact the Reception Office or email my colleague, Ms Fabian [justine.fabian@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:justine.fabian@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk).

### **Visiting the centre of Woolwich**

Students from St Paul's Academy are not permitted to visit Woolwich Town Centre at the end of the school day. I am fully aware that some students from St Paul's have to change buses in Woolwich. However, students from our school must not visit shops in the centre of Woolwich or loiter in the town centre. Any student from St Paul's involved in an incident in the Woolwich centre is at risk of either a fixed- term exclusion or a permanent exclusion.

I must also add that Woolwich Town Centre is now a *Dispersal Zone* under *Section 30 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003*. A dispersal zone is a designated area agreed by both the police and the local authority in which police Officers and PCSOs have the power and authority to request people in groups of two or more to leave the area if they believe their behaviour is anti-

social or likely to become anti-social and that it may cause general members of the public harassment, alarm or distress.

**Uniform issues**

Our School Uniform Shop will be open every Wednesday and Thursday from 9.15am – 12.15pm.

**Bringing students/ collecting students from St Paul's Academy**

All parents and guardians must ensure that parking restrictions are observed both before and after school. If you are either dropping your children at the Academy in the morning or collecting them at the end of the school day, you are requested not to use the Academy side of Finchale Road. You must also avoid parking in front of the driveways of our neighbours.

**Photographs/ Filming**

During the school year there will be occasions when photographs of students are taken or groups of students are filmed. If they are published, your child's name will not be listed. If you do not want your child to have their photograph taken or be involved in a filming session please inform me in writing.

**Open Day**

Open Day, for Year 6 students considering St. Paul's for their Secondary Education, will take place on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September. The school will be open from 9am – 12pm (noon) for prospective students and their parents and guardians. Application packs will be available from 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Please contact the Admissions Secretary, Mrs Lindsey Wood on 020 8311 3868 x130 or e-mail: [lindsey.wood@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:lindsey.wood@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk) for assistance with the application process. The school will be closed to all students on Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> September.

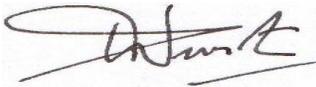
There will also be a series of *Open Mornings* on Thursdays, 28<sup>th</sup> September & 5<sup>th</sup>/ 13<sup>th</sup>/ 19<sup>th</sup> October from 10am – 11.15am.

**UK/ EU Passports**

During the school year, there will be a number of sporting/ cultural visits to Ireland and other parts of Europe. For all of these visits, students will require a valid UK/ EU Passport. I am prepared to counter sign passport applications.

I very much look forward to working with you in order to provide the best education possible for the young people in our care.

Yours sincerely



**Patrick Winston**  
Principal