WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: RLP/TA

September 2026

Year 11 – New Term

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to Year 11! This is a pivotal and exciting year in your child's school journey, and I am delighted to be leading the year group for a second year. Success at this crucial stage is best achieved when we work together in partnership — you, your child, and the school. You as parents and carers are the most important people in your child's life, and your support, trust, and involvement are key to their happiness, progress, and achievement. We are one team, sharing the same goal: to help every young person in Year 11 thrive, reach their potential, and prepare fully for their next steps.

Mr Dickinson-Fogg continues to be the Assistant Head of Year, our dedicated team of tutors who will be working alongside me to support your child throughout Year 11. At times, it maybe he that makes contact with you regarding your child and he will certainly be writing to let you know of all the Leavers' Celebrations we will be hoping to organise to help the Year group create memories of their time at William Farr Church of England School.

Your child's Form Tutor will be their daily point of contact and the first person you or they should approach with any questions, concerns, or news. They are there to offer daily support, monitor progress, check on wellbeing, and make the most of every opportunity. Please do get to know your child's Form Tutor — they are your main link to the school and will be happy to liaise with you if you have any concerns.

At the heart of everything we do are our shared vision and values, which we expect every member of our community — staff, students, and families — to uphold. These values create the right environment for learning: one that is safe, calm, and inclusive, where every individual is treated with respect and can focus on learning without distraction. When we all subscribe to these standards, we create a positive atmosphere where students can flourish and succeed. Our first term will include collective worship with the theme of Respect at its core. Please do keep up to date with the MCAS app and discuss your child's achievements and behaviour in school. With upcoming interviews and Post 16 applications on the horizon, students want to aim to have as positive a record as possible. Your support with this is invaluable.

Your support at home makes a huge difference to your child's success. Here are the keyways you can help:

- Uniform and Appearance — Please ensure your child attends school in full, correct uniform, including appropriate footwear and adhering to our jewellery policy (no excessive or distracting jewellery; one small pair of stud earrings only). Smart uniform helps students feel part of the school community and ready to learn.
- Equipment and Organisation — Please encourage your child to prepare their bag and equipment the night before. They should check their timetable each evening and pack the correct books, stationery, and resources needed for the following day. Good organisation saves time, reduces stress, and helps lessons run smoothly.
- "Book in a Bag" — We ask that every student carries a reading book in their bag at all times. Regular reading is one of the most powerful ways to improve vocabulary, literacy skills, and confidence — and it supports progress across all subjects.

- Homework — Homework reinforces learning, builds independence, and helps develop good study. habits. Please provide a quiet space and regular time at home for your child to complete homework and revision tasks and encourage them to meet deadlines. We are introducing over the coming term a Homework clinic to support students who are not completing homework on time and to a good standard. Please support your child by checking their VLE where all homework tasks will be added.

- Attendance and Punctuality — Good attendance is directly linked to achievement. Everyday matters, and being in school on time, every day, gives your child the best possible chance. Please note that term-time holidays are not authorised, in line with Government guidance, and absence affects progress and assessment outcomes.

- Code of Conduct — Our Code of Conduct exists to support a positive, calm, and safe environment for everyone. It is built on kindness, respect, and politeness — qualities we expect all students to show to staff, to each other, and to themselves. Please support us by reinforcing these values at home.

This term's PSHE focus will be on Revision techniques and preparing for Post 16 applications and interviews. Many colleges and Sixth forms, Apprenticeship opportunities and other Post 16 options will start holding Open Days and applications before Christmas. Our PSHE programme is designed to help students create CV's, achievement files, interview techniques and other practical information to assist them in making plans for their next chapter. With the upcoming Mock examinations in November, revision strategies will also support students in creating meaningful revision practices.

We know that concerns or difficulties can sometimes arise. Should this happen, please trust the school to look into matters thoroughly and fairly. Please be aware that careful investigation takes time — we will always keep you informed, but we ask for your patience while we establish facts and work towards a resolution that upholds fairness and safety for all.

Here are some key dates for your diaries for Terms 1 and 2.

- **23 October – Half Term**
- **16 November – Mock week**
- **1 December – Leavers' Photos**
- **8 December – Mock results in PSHE**
- **15 December – Big Christmas Quiz**
- **Year 11 Parents evening is 13 January 2027, and the Leaver's Prom is provisionally booked for 7 July 2027. This later date is subject to change.**

Year 11 will bring challenges as well as achievements, and we will face them side by side. I look forward to working with you, supporting your child, and celebrating their success as we move through this important year together. All students have been given the opportunity to become Prefects. If your child has written a letter of application and agreed to commit to the responsibilities of this post, a prefect tie will become available to purchase through the parent pay app.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor or me if you have any questions or concerns or the relevant Head of Faculty for subject specific queries.

Yours sincerely



Mrs R Parry
Head of Year 11