



ACTING HEADTEACHER: Mrs H Fry

Monday 16th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to share how wonderfully our new Year 7 students have settled into secondary school. It has been a pleasure to see them embracing new routines, making new friends, and adjusting to life at Watling with such enthusiasm.

Our staff have provided lots of positive feedback, commenting on how engaged and eager the students are in their lessons. It's clear that this year group has made a fantastic start, and we are very proud of their efforts so far.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and our House system form fundamental parts of our Academy ethos. These combined on our Year 7 induction day with the egg drop challenge where students were tasked to design a contraption to protect 2 eggs when dropped from a height of 3 metres. It was great to see our new students show fantastic teamwork and problem-solving skills during this activity. While not all eggs survived the fall, every tutor group demonstrated great determination; the challenge was also accompanied by some "egg-cellent" jokes from the groups, adding plenty of fun to the day! Congratulations to 7ARS (Rutherford house), 7CTY (Marshall house), RCK (Turing House) who were joint winners.

At Watling we are aware of the challenges students and parents face when adapting to the new routine of secondary school. As part of our induction process, we released students early to break, lunch and after-school while they got used to their new surroundings. By now students should be familiar with their timetable and know where all their lessons are located, and they will now follow their full, regular timetable from Monday 16th September. As we move forward, we will begin to monitor attendance and punctuality more closely.

Please could we also seek your support in ensuring all students arrive before 8:40am, students arriving after this time are coded late for school.

Respect / Responsibility / Kindness



WATLING ACADEMY, BARROSA WAY, WHITEHOUSE, MILTON KEYNES, MK8 1EP

watlingacademy.net



I would also like take this opportunity to remind Parents/Carers of two key events that are upcoming:

- Learning Pathways Evening - this takes place on Thursday 19th September (please see separate e-mail sent last week for sign up options).
- ClassCharts sign-up - We use the ClassCharts app to communicate student achievement and behaviour. Shortly you will be receiving information on how to access and use this service.

We are excited to continue supporting and encouraging our Year 7s as they settle in further, and we look forward to seeing them grow and flourish throughout their time at Watling.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure a smooth and successful transition for all our students. We are very excited to see what they will achieve this year!

Warm regards,

Miss Hill
Head of Year 7