



# MAIDEN ERLEGH

CHILTERN EDGE

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Dear Families,

Welcome to the start of the new term at MECE, the poor weather has not deterred us and we are raring to go for a successful term ahead.

## Year 7 Success!

On Wednesday we welcomed our new year 7 cohort who made an outstanding start with 100% attendance on their first day - attendance is a big focus for school's nationally and for us this year at MECE. Remember that every day missed of school equates to 5 whole lessons so it is vital that all students attend every single day. I was particularly proud of the year 10 students who gave up a day of their holiday to support the year 7 tutor groups on their first day - a big thank you to Imogen, Marilyn, Isaias and Emmanuel and to the year 7 tutors and Miss Biddiss.

## High Expectations

My term began with assemblies for all year groups. It was brilliant to see everyone back in their full winter uniform looking so smart and listening carefully to our expectations for the new school year. It was clear that in every year group students have returned with a sense of purpose and ambition and that they are ready to learn. I reiterated our conduct expectations and lesson expectations which you can see below.



## Conduct expectations

1. Be on time
2. Wear full uniform
3. Be fully equipped with tools for learning, exercise book and PE kit
4. Follow instructions first time, every time
5. Show respect to all members of the MECE community in your actions and language
6. Show care for the site
7. Personal Space "Hands off"



Aim High



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Work Together



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# Lesson expectations

1. Calm and purposeful **start of lesson routines** including prompt register and silent 'do now'
2. **One voice** and independent work is **silent work**
3. **Hands down** questioning
4. Regular **retrieval**
5. Active **participation** and independence
6. **Homework** completed regularly



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## Welcome to the English Team

We have a number of new staff who have started with us this week and all are settling in well, as an English teacher myself, I am particularly pleased to welcome the new members of the English team. Miss Thomas as Head of Department has been leading exciting discussions about the curriculum. We took a delivery of the novel 'The Bone Sparrow' for year 8 groups as part of the new programme of study for that year group and I am excited to get started on teaching the Power and Conflict poetry to my own year 10 GCSE class. In my visits to lessons yesterday and today, I can see classes are already settled and learning with their new teachers. We have also welcomed Mrs Roberts, who is the Trust lead for English and will be teaching at MECE for two days per week and Miss Jackson, who returns as an experienced English teacher and Head of year 8. The specialist teaching team is completed by Mr Groves and myself with 'guest' teachers Mr Harte and Mr Caldwell taking some groups. I am confident English will quickly become a strength of the school.

## Open events

Looking ahead this term, a particular focus for us will be the open mornings and the open evening on Thursday 3 October. We aim to show the rising year 6 students and their parents what a special place MECE is to work and learn. As members of our community please support us in doing all you can to spread positive messages about the school particularly within our local primary schools. If you have a child in year 5 or 6 and would be interested in supporting us as a parent advocate do get in touch - this role would involve distributing information to other parents, communicating key messages from the school and also giving us feedback about what parents are looking for as they make their secondary school choice.



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*We are a small inclusive community comprehensive school serving Sonning Common and the communities of South Oxfordshire and North Reading. We value community, ambition and commitment. Everyone belongs here.*

*#MECEcares*

Finally, I trust the return to school has gone well for your child, if there are any questions which have come up, do contact us via their tutor in the first instance. We would much rather deal with small issues when they first occur and not let problems and worries ferment over time. You can contact any teacher in the school via our usual contact email, [meceoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org](mailto:meceoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org)

Best wishes



Mrs Bowers  
Headteacher

