



# PRESDALES SCHOOL

*Achievement for all*

Headteacher: Mr M Warren

Hoe Lane

Ware, Herts

SG12 9NX

Tel: 01920 462210

Email: admin@presdales.herts.sch.uk

4<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I trust that you and your families had a pleasant summer break. A warm welcome to all of our new families in Year 7 and Year 12, whose children started with us yesterday and also to those few who have joined our school in other year groups.

Unfortunately, I need to start this letter with sad news that many of you may already be aware of. For the past four years, Tierney Kinsella, one of our Year 13 students had been suffering from cancer. Sadly, on Sunday 21st July, Tierney passed away peacefully with her family by her side. Tierney's funeral was a mixture of sadness and also celebration of a young lady who showed incredible resilience, courage and determination over a long period of time. Tierney will be missed by all who knew her.

We were very pleased with our summer GCSE and A level exam results. There has been a great deal of change nationally at both GCSE and A Level over the past few years and we are proud of how our students have coped with this. I would like to thank both staff and parents for the combined effort in supporting our students to achieve such high quality results. A brief overview of provisional results will be on our website in due course.

I would like to take this opportunity to share a number of reminders:

Students are allowed into the school building from 7.45am and can go to their form room. All students need to leave the school site by 4.30pm unless they are participating in an organised after school activity and are being supervised by a member of staff. At the end of the school day, unless students are in homework club or a supervised activity, they can only wait in the dining room. Due to the buses, please do not drive onto school grounds at the end of the day to pick up your child. I would also ask that those parking on Hoe Lane and the surrounding area respect our local community. Parents are able to wait for their child in the Rugby club. Our site security has been improved over the summer break and the electronic gates are now up and running. There are buzzer points at all gates which are linked to reception if a gate is locked.

The Behaviour for Learning policy can be found on the school website (***About the school – Statutory information - School policies***). We would ask that you familiarise yourself with it, in particular with our expectations for our uniform.

We will be holding information evenings for all year groups over the next few weeks where key dates and advice on how to best support your child for the year ahead will be shared. We would ask that you attend these evenings.

The dates of these meetings are as follows (in chronological order):

<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Tuesday 10 September</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Year 12</b>	<b>Thursday 12 September</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Year 13</b>	<b>Thursday 12 September</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>
<b>Year 8</b>	<b>Tuesday 17 September</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Year 9</b>	<b>Tuesday 17 September</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>

<b>Year 10</b>	<b>Tuesday 24 September</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>
<b>Year 11</b>	<b>Tuesday 24 September</b>	<b>8.00pm</b>

If you have any concerns about your child, your first point of contact should be their form tutor or Head of Year. If you contact the school, please expect a response within 48 hours. There are times when this may be an acknowledgement of your communication, as more time is needed to look into your concerns e.g. part time staff who are not in school to talk to. We would ask that if you have a concern, please seek clarification on the matter first, before assuming that the information your child has given you is the only version.

As we are a large secondary school, there is a clear management structure within the school to enable us to support students effectively. There are times when an issue may need escalating and the following structures are in place to support this. We ask that you follow the structure as outlined below.

**Pastoral issue:**

Form tutor → Head of Year → Assistant Headteacher (Head of Key Stage) → Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral) → Headteacher

**Academic/curriculum issue:**

Form teacher/subject teacher → Head of Department/Faculty → Senior leadership team department link → Deputy Headteacher (Curriculum) → Headteacher

All roles are listed on the school website (***About the school – School staff***)

**Secondary transfer evening**

Our secondary transfer evening will take place on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October. In preparation for this evening, the school will close at **12.45pm** on the Thursday. We are also closed on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October** for a staff inset day.

Thank you for the support that you gave us last year. We look forward to a productive relationship where we are all working together to ensure that every child fulfils their potential.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Warren  
Headteacher