

Newlands Girls' School

Courage Commitment Compassion

Headteacher: Miss J. Capon



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September 2024

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I would like to start by welcoming you back to the new academic year, both our existing families, and those joining us. Once again we celebrated excellent exam results and I congratulate both Years 11 and 13 on their successes. I wish them the very best of luck for the future, and warmly welcome so many of them into our growing Sixth Form.

I will be reminding the whole community in my upcoming assemblies about the values which drive us. Our 3Cs - Courage Commitment and Compassion which are at the heart of everything we do and are crucial in helping us make decisions to take us forward. In addition to our school values, the House system is important to us and creates healthy competition, leadership opportunities and a sense of community. This year, every student will be issued with a badge in their house colour. This must be worn just under the school logo emblem on every blazer at all times. If the badge is lost, the replacement cost will be £1. It will be wonderful to see our school houses now reflected in the uniform.

As we start this academic year, I also want to draw your attention once again to our wonderful achievement back in May when Ofsted completed an inspection and judged that the school continues to be **outstanding**. If you have not had the opportunity to read the report, you can find it on the school website [here](#).

I am delighted to confirm that we are fully staffed, with subject specialists delivering the curriculum and supporting all our students. This is not something to take for granted in the current teacher recruitment climate. I am very grateful for the passion, expertise and dedication demonstrated by every member of staff in our school community.

I wish to reiterate a few of the important messages as we begin 2024-25. Firstly, a reminder about the importance of excellent attendance. **No holidays in term time will be authorised** and medical or dental appointments need to be arranged outside the school day unless it is an emergency. Punctuality in the morning, and also to lessons, is of equal importance and we ask for your assistance in ensuring that students arrive at school **before 8.40am**. I also set out clearly our uniform expectations in the summer. In case you missed this letter, you can find it again [here](#). All our policies are on the school website (including our Behaviour Policy) so do take a look if you are unsure about anything. Finally, I wanted to let you know that we have revised our approach to reporting at KS3. As a school we are focusing on how well students are learning the curriculum and have a new approach to the language and content of the reports. More information on this will follow later in the term and as your child receives their report.

Please remember that there are two important ways in which we communicate with you. Arbor is a digital platform which you will need in order to gain access to information such as reports. If you do not have a login (for any new students, information will be sent separately) please contact Alistair Bover at AlistairBover@Newlandsgirls.co.uk. The other important communication is *Newlands News*, which is normally sent on a Friday and contains news, advice and updates. It also celebrates student successes which is what makes it such a pleasure to read.

As we embark on the term do not hesitate to get in touch with the school if you have any questions; we are always here to help. A reminder that the school gates will be open from **8.25am**.

I look forward to meeting you in person during the year at our various events such as our Information Evenings and Parents' Evenings.

Kind regards



Jo Capon
Headteacher



We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

