

5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome our Year 10 and Year 11 students back to St Augustine's after the summer break. The start of term has been incredibly positive, and we are proud of the way students have returned with maturity, focus, and a strong sense of purpose as they begin or continue their GCSE journey.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child is wearing the correct uniform. We will maintain a strong focus on both uniform and equipment throughout the year, and we are always here to support families wherever possible.

As a Catholic school, our mission to love and serve through Christ remains at the heart of everything we do. We are proud to be a community rooted in faith, compassion, and service, and we encourage our students to live out these values in their daily lives - in their learning, relationships, and contributions to our school and wider community.

This year is a crucial one, particularly for our Year 11 students preparing for their final exams, and for Year 10 students laying the foundations for success. We are committed to supporting every student academically, emotionally, and spiritually, and we encourage them to stay focused and make the most of every opportunity from the very start of term.

Attendance has been strong this week - a great start to the year. We would like to remind families that, in line with government guidance, we do not authorise holidays during term time. Families may be subject to a fine should they choose to take their child out of school for this reason. Research shows that attendance has a direct impact on GCSE outcomes, and we appreciate your continued support in ensuring your child is in school every day.

Students have shown great resilience and determination in their first few days back, and it's been wonderful to see their enthusiasm for learning. There is a growing excitement around the Chromebooks that students will be receiving, and we will be sharing more information with you in due course.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I have received since joining St Augustine's. It is clear that this is a truly special community, and I feel privileged to be part of it. I look forward to getting to know our students and their families over the coming weeks and months, and to working together to support every child to achieve their very best.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support. We are confident that this will be the most successful year yet for our students, and we look forward to working together to help them thrive.

Warm regards,

Rosa Flanagan – Interim Headteacher

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