

Friday 9th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to meet and greet so many of you both last night and today at LCCD. I hope you found your appointment valuable as we work together to support your child's progress and wider development. We also had the privilege of officially appointing our three new Head Students this week; the field was exceptionally strong. This week we held two further parent and child tours, a testament to the popularity of our Academy. Looking ahead we are excited to celebrate Black History Month with Mr Flitcroft, Ms Hagan and students leading assemblies to reflect the Academy's commitment to our diversity.

Winter Flu vaccinations - Tuesday 20th October

The Kensington & Chelsea Immunisation Team will be at Chelsea Academy on Tuesday 20th October to administer the Winter Flu Jab which is available to **Years 7- 11 only**. While it is not mandatory for every child to have the flu vaccination, it is compulsory to offer every parent or carer the opportunity for their school aged child to be vaccinated within the educational setting to reduce health disparities. Please note that the Immunisation Team will contact you directly to request consent for your child.

Tempest Photos

All Year 7, 9 and 12 students in addition to in-year admission students will have received their photo proofs this week. Parents and carers can order through the Tempest website using your unique link/QR code on the proof or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk. If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

New Relationships and Sex Education policy

In line with updated Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance, we have reviewed and updated our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy. We seek to work in close partnership with parents and carers, and so have attached the policy for your review. This sets out our approach as an Academy, whilst complying with statutory requirements and includes our RSE curriculum overview for Y7-13, our teaching principles and any information regarding parental engagement and rights. Please take a moment to read the policy and if you have any questions or feedback, send through to personal.development@chelsea-academy.org by Wednesday 21st October.

Year 8 Progress Evening - Tuesday 10th November

Our Year 8 Progress Evening takes place on **Tuesday 10th November** with appointments available between 3- and 6.30pm - meaning a 2.35pm finish to the Academy day. This is a key opportunity to meet with your child's subject teachers, review their current progress across all subjects, and discuss their main target areas for the year ahead. Details on how to book your appointments via **SchoolCloud** will be sent out shortly. Please save the date in your diary. Working in close partnership with families is central to ensuring your child flourishes, and we strongly encourage all parents or carers to attend.

Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 12th November

We look forward to welcoming all Year 11 students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 12th November. Further details will be shared by Mr. Daverat and Ms Holgate in due course; in the meantime, please save this key date in your calendar.

Health and attendance

I have attached information from the NHS on how to manage your child's absence from school during times of illness. You may find the [Is my child too ill for school](#) page insightful as well as this DfE YouTube video on [Illness absence and staying healthy](#).

Company No: 06176090

Principal: Mrs M Ardron

CAF update

The Chelsea Academy Foundation continues to take learning beyond the classroom. A group of Year 10 students enjoyed a production of Much Ado About Nothing at Shakespeare's Globe. Seeing the actors play off the crowd, and hearing the audience react in real time, showed them how a play comes alive on stage. As one student remarked, "This trip allowed me to truly experience the emotion and volume these actors perform to make a play like this possible."

Our sixth formers, meanwhile, were challenged by Oliver Ashby of London Business School to think hard about who they are and what they stand for. His session helped students pin down their personal values and build a personal brand that will set them apart in a world increasingly shaped by AI. Once again, students engaged thoughtfully with the lecture, showing real commitment to their personal growth.

These are just two highlights. Behind the scenes, the Foundation also funds student wellbeing support through Connect-Ed, one-to-one tutoring and university application support through The Access Project, and our new AI Technology Club, all made possible by the generosity of our supporters.

Chaplain's (Anita Rolls) message

At the weekend I was at an event in a church dedicated to St Francis of Assisi. By happy coincidence, it was also his feast day (800 years after his death in 1226) and it got me thinking about the famous prayer associated with him: **"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."** Living in 21st-century London, we are used to things being provided for us, and perhaps it's easy to think about peace in the same way: as something governments, police, schools and other institutions are responsible for creating. And of course they are. But St Francis's prayer reminds us that responsibility for peace also belongs to each of us. **Peace isn't simply something we receive; it's something we participate in making.** That resonates with much of what I see happening at Chelsea Academy: helping our students recognise that they have agency, and that through the choices they make and the way they treat others, they contribute to the kind of community we create. And perhaps there's something in that for all of us. We may feel powerless in the face of conflicts in the wider world, but we each have our own small corner of it – at home, work and in our communities – where we can play our own not insignificant part in making peace.

I hope you have a peaceful weekend and we look forward to seeing your child back with us at 8.35am on Monday.

Yours faithfully,



Mariella Ardron
Principal

Upcoming useful dates:

Thursday 22nd - Friday 30th October - Half Term
Monday 2nd November - All students return to the Academy
Tuesday 10th November - Year 8 Progress evening
Thursday 12th November - Sixth Form Open Evening
Wednesday 18th November - Year 7 Progress Evening