

St. Margaret's

Church of England Academy

"Achievement by faith and work"

Headteacher: Mr A Robinson

July 2024

Dear Parents / Carers

As we come to the close of another academic year it is only right to reflect on the year and take stock of all the achievements we have made as a school. Linked to our vision that **'All things are possible for one who believes'** Mark 9:23, we are incredibly proud of the achievements of our students this year and the final week of term is a great opportunity to celebrate their successes. A huge number of our students will be recognised for their 'Outstanding Achievement' and 'Outstanding Attitude to Learning' during our celebration assemblies this week and there have been many other successes throughout the year that also come to mind which include;

- Our Year 7 Football team who recently won the Merseyside Schools Competition
- St Margaret's Academy Chess Open 2024 involving over 30 students
- Our Christmas Concert on 13th December and Spring Concert 'Music Through time' in March
- The Eco-Council being awarded the Green Flag Award
- Our school being awarded the Silver Parliamentary Ambassador Award

As always, at this time of year, we have several staff who are moving onto pastures new. I'm sure you'll want to join me in wishing Mr Martin, Mrs Maher, Miss Bratherton, Mr Kingston, Mrs Hart, Mr Lawton, Mr Oultram and Miss Craig all the very best for the future.

I'm delighted to welcome some new colleagues to the St. Margaret's family who will support our students in the coming year. These include

- Mr Jones Head of Science
- Mr Ho Head of Business and Computing
- Miss Harland Teacher of History
- Mrs Worthington Teacher of Maths
- Mr Salman Teacher of Science
- Mrs Harrison Pastoral Manager

Looking a little further to the future a reminder that students will finish for summer on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July at **12:30pm**.

For our students in Year 11 and 13, the results days are;

- Year 13: Thursday 15th August 2024
- Year 11: Thursday 22nd August 2024

Proud to be a member of



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All Saints Multi Academy Trust is the operating name for The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust Students will be able to collect their results from 8:00am at the Sports Hall on both days.

For any student who is away on holiday and unable to collect their results, there is an option for results to be emailed to the student directly, or alternatively released to a designated person, as long as we have received the student's consent by email in advance. Students can email <a href="mailto:exams@stmargaretsacademy.com">exams@stmargaretsacademy.com</a> to confirm the arrangements and if someone else is collecting on their behalf they will need to bring their ID.

Students will be given time to celebrate with their peers and will have the opportunity to take photographs if they wish. Our Sixth Form staff will also be here on GCSE results day to sign up students from 8:00am. We really look forward to working with you again!

# Next Academic Year

# New School Day and Calendar:

In terms of preparation for next year, following our consultation with stakeholders it has been agreed that the timings of the school day from 2nd September will be as follows:

08.45	Registration/collective worship/assembly/ St Margaret's Reads
09.15	P1
10.15	P2
11.15	Break
11.35	P3
12.35	P4
13.35	Lunch
14.15	P5
15.15	End of the day for students

In addition, the calendar for the year is below

September 2024									October 2024								November 2024									December 2024						
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Term Time	School Holiday	Bank Holiday	INSET Day	
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# September return times:

We will welcome back Year 7, 11 and 12 on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September with a prompt 8:45 start. The rest of the school will join us, with **all** students returning on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September again, with a prompt 8:45 start.

As we prepare for the start of the new academic year, I wanted to take this opportunity to outline the standards and expectations that will guide our school community. These principles are designed to ensure a positive, productive, and supportive learning environment for all our students.

# Academic Excellence:

We are committed to providing a high-quality education that challenges and inspires our students. We expect our students to strive for their personal best and take an active role in their learning. Regular attendance, punctuality, and engagement in class activities are crucial for academic success.

To ensure all our students are prepared for their learning, we expect them to bring the following equipment to school each day:

- Black or blue pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Rubber
- Scientific calculator
- Highlighter
- Glue stick
- Whiteboard pen
- A reading book

In addition, next academic year we will be encouraging all students to take home their exercise books. Please can you ensure your child has an appropriately sized school bag, to ensure it is possible for them to carry their exercise books to and from school.

Please also use the summer break to ensure that your child has their full uniform available. All students should wear a school blazer, white shirt, year group tie, black trousers, and black leather shoes. Uniform detail can be found on our <u>website</u>. If any families are in receipt of free school meals and require support with uniform purchasing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Pastoral Leader.

We must continue to stress that mobile phone use is not permitted on site. We recognise that they are an important safety measure when travelling to and from school. However, they cause distraction and disruption within school so phones must be switched off and out of sight from the start of the school day until the end. This rule also applies to SMART watched and AirPods/Headphones.

# Values:

Respect for oneself, others, and the school environment is a fundamental value at St. Margaret's. We expect students to demonstrate Compassion, Resilience, and Respect in their interactions with peers, teachers, and staff. Bullying, discrimination, and any form of disrespect will not be tolerated.

Next academic year our Safer Schools Police Officer, PC Haley Davies, will be present on site one day a week as part of our ongoing pastoral provision. She will be available to deliver interventions with any individual students, or groups, who require advice and guidance.

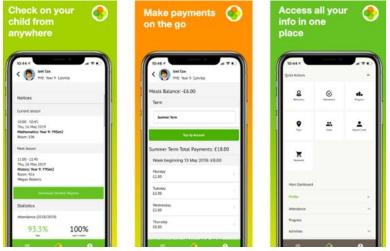
# **Communication:**

Open and effective communication between the school and home is essential for supporting student success. We encourage you to stay informed about your child's progress and to reach out to teachers and staff with any questions or concerns. Regular updates will be provided through newsletters, our school website, and parent-teacher meetings.

Please continue to use Arbor which will allow us to communicate with you more efficiently and allow you access to key information including attendance, behaviour, timetable, and homework.

To access the Arbor Parent Portal/Arbor App:

Go to https://login.arbor.sc and click Forgot your password? to finish setting up your account using your own email account.



### Attendance and Punctuality:

Consistent attendance and punctuality are critical for academic achievement. We expect students to attend school regularly and arrive on time, ready to learn. If your child will be absent, please notify the school as soon as possible and provide a valid reason for their absence.

0 days off (190 days attended)	100%	PERFECTION					
4 days off each year	98%	IMPRESSIVE					
7 days off each year	96%	NEARLY THERE					
9 days off each year	95%	CAN BE IMPROVED					
11 days off each year	94%	NEEDS TO IMPROVE					
20 days off each year	90%	SERIOUS CONCERNS					
30 days off each year	85%						
38 days off each year	80%	RISK OF PROSECUTION					

As a part of our ongoing commitment to improving punctuality and attendance, we will be introducing a new system to manage lateness to school and lessons next year. An update on this will be provided in the new term. It must be stressed that high standards of attendance and punctuality are essential for pupils to maximise their educational opportunities here at St Margaret's.

Throughout the year there will be various attendance challenges with associated rewards. Our first attendance challenge is to maintain 100% attendance throughout the first three weeks of the school

year. All students who have 100% attendance, up to and including Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, will be entered into a prize draw to win a £50 voucher.

### Homework and Study Habits:

Homework is an integral part of the learning process and helps reinforce concepts taught in class. We expect students to complete their homework assignments on time and to the best of their ability I would like to remind you that all homework is set on Arbor. Establishing a regular study routine at home will greatly benefit your child's academic progress.

# **Extracurricular Activities:**

Participation in extracurricular activities is encouraged as it fosters a well-rounded education and helps students develop important life skills. We offer a variety of clubs, sports, and arts programs, and we hope your child will take advantage of these opportunities.

# Parental Involvement:

Your involvement in your child's education is invaluable. We encourage you to participate in school events and communicate with us when we have something to celebrate or indeed improve on. Your support and engagement help create a strong school community and enhance the educational experience for all students.

Together, we can create an environment where every student feels valued, supported, and motivated to achieve their best. We look forward to working in partnership with you to make this school year a successful and memorable one.

# Mental Health and Wellbeing:

As many of you know, we have a range of services within school to support our students with their mental health. I am delighted to announce that we are expanding the range of partners we work with, and next year we will be working with a local Mental Health Support Team (MHST) to provide support for those students who need it and will also be training a small group of students to become mental health champions and mentors as part of a project called TOTEM (Talking Openly To Embrace Mental Health).

Should any students require any mental health support over the summer holiday period, there are a range of services available:

- Liverpool CAMHS crisis team are available 24/7 at Alder Hey and are contactable on 0151 293 3577 or 0808 196 3550. They have a free, confidential, 24/7 text message support service. To start a conversation text the word SHOUT to 85258. More information about Liverpool CAMHS is available <u>here</u>.
- <u>Childline</u>: call them on <u>0800 1111</u> or chat to us <u>online</u>.
- Samaritans: call them on 116 123 or Contact Us | Samaritans
- Kooth provides online, free and confidential counselling: <u>Home Kooth.</u>
- <u>Young Minds Crisis Messenger</u> provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK mental health crisis If you need urgent help text YM to 85258.
- Papyrus provides support for any young people experiencing suicidal thoughts or ideation. They are contactable here: <u>HOPE</u> line UK; 0800 068 4141.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation. The community pray that you all have a safe and restful summer.

Warm regards,

Adam Robinson Headteacher