

Friday 24 October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take a moment to reflect on just how far we have come together as a school community.

At The Prescot School, we speak often to our students about being *the most improved school in Knowsley* — and that is no exaggeration. This transformation has only been possible because of the *WE*: our dedicated staff, hardworking students, and supportive families all pulling in the same direction to make our school the school of choice for our community.

Here are just a few of the improvements we are proud to share:

- GCSE results have risen significantly across almost all subjects — on average by around 10%.
- Student progress has improved considerably, reflecting the stronger teaching and high expectations in every classroom.
- Attendance has increased, showing that our students *want* to be in school every day and value their learning.
- Extra-curricular participation has grown by over 500% this year, with more clubs, activities, and enrichment opportunities than ever before.
- Visitors and external partners consistently praise how *calm, warm, and welcoming* the atmosphere in school is — something we can all be proud of.

I would also like to thank all our students, parents, and staff who recently completed the school questionnaires. These surveys were analysed by an independent company who compared The Prescot School's responses to those from schools nationally.

I am delighted to share that for every question asked across all three groups, The Prescot School scored above the national average — a significant improvement since the last time the surveys were carried out.

In particular, there were *well above average* results in the areas of behaviour, culture, and high expectations, which is testament to the incredible work and commitment of everyone in our school community. This data confirms that we are firmly on the right track towards making The Prescot School the *school of choice for Knowsley and beyond*.

Of course, we are a normal school and will always have challenges to face. However, what sets us apart now is our *clarity, consistency, and care*. We have strong routines, clear expectations, and the right support in place to help every student succeed.

We know there is still more to do, but our commitment remains unwavering. Together, we will continue to build on these foundations and make The Prescot School a place where every child can thrive.

Supporting Your Child

We cannot stress enough the importance of your continued support — it makes a huge difference to your child's success and to the culture of our school. The partnership between home and school is at the heart of everything we do.

OUR VISION

WE ARE COMMITTED TO NURTURING WELL-ROUNDED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ACADEMICALLY PREPARED, SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE, AND EQUIPPED WITH THE SKILLS TO THRIVE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD



Proud member of The

Heath Family
Trust

Here are some simple but powerful ways you can help every day:

- Check your child is fully equipped each morning.
Full equipment includes a school bag, pencil case with pens, pencils, and other essentials. This ensures your child is prepared and ready to learn.
- Get your child to school on time.
School starts promptly at 8:25am. We understand there can sometimes be transport issues, but please encourage your child to leave in good time.
If they arrive early enough, they can have a free breakfast every morning.
- Ensure your child attends school every day, unless genuinely unwell.
There is an important difference between being *unwell* and being *able to attend school*. A mild cold, feeling tired, or minor ailments should not mean a day off.
The biggest difference you can make to your child's education is ensuring positive attendance.

We have made huge strides in improving attendance across the school, but there are still too many students missing days for avoidable reasons such as tiredness, minor illness, or family errands. Every lesson matters — and everyday counts.

Looking Ahead

After the half-term break, we are excited to continue building on this positive momentum.

- We look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday 3 November 2025 at 8:25am.
Saturday Morning Tutoring:
From next half-term, we will be opening the school on Saturday mornings to offer *free tutoring* for our Year 11 students. This is a rare and valuable opportunity that very few schools provide, but we know just how much impact high-quality tutoring can have on progress, attainment, and future life chances.
- Saturday Clubs for Primary Students (Years 4 and 5):
We are also delighted to be running *Saturday Sports and Activity Clubs* for Year 4 and 5 pupils from 10:30am to 12:30pm each week. These sessions will include a mix of sport, drama, music, and art, providing children with a fun and engaging opportunity to develop their skills and confidence.
- Catch-Up Opportunities for Years 7–10:
In addition, we will be offering opportunities for students in Years 7–10 to catch up on any work they may have missed through absence. This additional support will help every student stay on track and achieve their best.

Thank you again for your continued support, encouragement, and belief in what we are building together. The progress we have made is down to the collective effort of our students, staff, and families — and with your help, we will continue to move from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely,



Mr M. Reynolds
Principal

BROMCOM / MCAS (cashless payments)

Over the summer holidays a number of key IT systems in the school were updated. These updates were essential due to ageing infrastructure within the school. One of these projects was the replacement of the Cashless Catering Till system that the School Meals Service uses in the School.

Whilst the system has worked correctly in isolation since school started in September communications to some of the other systems within the school have been problematic and School, Trust and School Meals Service staff have been working tirelessly with the different providers involved but unfortunately this has been a slow moving process. It is worth noting that any payments made online are safe and all transactions that individual pupils have made in school are safely stored within the catering system. Currently payments and balances are being communicated between the Cashless Catering System and the Bromcom system since the 14th October 2025.

Colleagues from the School, Trust and School Meals Service are continuing to work with the third party providers to finalise the communication of the missing transaction data between the Cashless Catering System. Whilst this is ongoing we can provide you with information directly from the Cashless Catering System. If you do have queries relating transaction data please contact Daniel.McErlain@knowsley.gov.uk who will be able to send details directly from the Cashless Catering System to you. Information relating to payments made on the Bromcom system will need to be directed in the first instance to school via the contact page on the school website, Reception option. We will provide you with an update once the system is working correctly, which we are hoping will be sorted over the half-term break.

James Holmes
Head of Commercial Services
Commercial Services
Knowsley Council