

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we welcome another academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support of our school, our staff and, most importantly, our students.

Working in partnership with families is essential if we are to give every child the very best opportunities, and I am incredibly grateful for the support you have shown throughout the year. The progress we have made together over the past two years has been significant, and it is something that we should all be proud of.

One of the most noticeable improvements has been in behaviour and culture across the school. Internal behaviour logs for negative incidents have reduced by over 90%, while suspensions have fallen by more than 50%. Whilst statistics are important, what matters most is what these improvements mean for our students: calmer classrooms, stronger relationships and a school where young people can focus on learning and achievement.

What is particularly pleasing is that these improvements are recognised by others. Visitors to the school regularly comment on the change in culture and atmosphere. They describe The Prescot School as warm, welcoming and friendly. As Principal, it is wonderful to hear such feedback, but more importantly, it should give our students and staff a huge sense of pride. They have worked incredibly hard to create a school community where people feel safe, respected and valued.

Another clear sign of our improvement is the increasing number of families choosing The Prescot School for their children. Applications have risen significantly, demonstrating the growing confidence that our community has in the school. We are increasingly recognised as a school with high expectations and a determination to ensure every child succeeds. At The Prescot School, our values of **Kindness, Integrity and Tenacity** remain at the heart of everything we do.

Many of you will have heard me use the phrase: **"If I let you off, I let you down."**

This is not about being strict for the sake of it. It reflects my belief that genuinely caring for young people means having the highest expectations of them. We want every child to be successful academically, attend regularly, arrive punctually, behave well, contribute positively and leave us prepared for the next stage of their lives.

Every member of staff shares this belief. We know that education changes lives, and we believe we can have a positive influence on every child in our care. Being kind sometimes means being honest about where we can improve further, and there are a number of areas where I continue to ask for your support.

Attendance and Punctuality

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

You will know that attendance has been a major focus for us. Over the last two years, attendance has increased by almost 5 percentage points, making us one of the most improved schools nationally. This is a remarkable achievement and reflects the fact that more children want to come to school.

Punctuality has also improved considerably, but we still have a small number of students who are persistently late.

I cannot stress enough how important it is that students arrive on time. The school day begins at **8:25 am with line-up**, and arriving late means students miss important routines and learning.

I fully understand that transport difficulties can occasionally cause delays, and we take these circumstances into account. However, where lateness becomes a regular pattern, we need families to work with us to address it. This may mean leaving home a little earlier or making alternative arrangements.

To support families, our school is open from **7:45 am each day**, with a free breakfast available for students.

Attendance remains equally important. Some students may miss individual days here and there, but these absences quickly add up. With five lessons each day, every absence means missed learning. We know there is a clear link between strong attendance and academic success. While achieving 100% attendance may not always be possible, our goal is simple: **no more than 10 days absent across the school year**.

If attendance is becoming a concern, please contact us. We are here to help and want to work alongside you to remove any barriers that may exist.

This year, we will also be introducing a **"Child Sick in School" form**, allowing families to share information with us when a child may be feeling slightly under the weather but is well enough to attend. This will help us provide appropriate support during the day and, where possible, encourage attendance rather than unnecessary absence.

Attendance matters. Every lesson matters.

Mobile Phones

You will also be aware of our position regarding mobile phones. From September, students will continue to hand in their mobile phones each morning. Phones will be securely stored during the school day and returned at the end of the day. This is non-negotiable. This decision has been made because we believe young people need time away from their phones. They need opportunities to learn without distraction, to speak to one another, to build friendships and to simply be children.

Nationally, schools are increasingly taking action to reduce phone use during the school day because of the impact excessive phone access can have on concentration, learning, wellbeing and social interaction. I would also ask parents and carers not to contact their child directly on their mobile phone during the school day. If there is an urgent matter, please contact the school and we will ensure messages are passed on quickly. To support this approach, we have invested significantly in additional telephone systems and increased staffing to ensure

communication between home and school is efficient and effective when required. I would also encourage parents to be aware of the possibility that some students may have access to more than one mobile phone. We ask for your support in ensuring that all devices are handed in as required.

Looking Ahead

As many of you know, we are due an Ofsted inspection. Whilst inspections inevitably bring a degree of pressure, I genuinely welcome the opportunity to showcase the improvements that staff, students and families have worked so hard to achieve.

We know there is still more to do. We are honest about that. School improvement is never complete. However, I firmly believe we have built a school community we can all be proud of, and I look forward to sharing that journey with inspectors when the time comes.

Another positive sign of the school's progress is that, unlike many schools nationally, we enter the new academic year fully staffed across every subject area. This is a testament to the reputation of our school and evidence that talented professionals want to work here. I would like to warmly welcome all new colleagues joining our community in September.

Finally, I want you to know that I will always value your feedback. Those parents and carers who have met or spoken with me will hopefully know that I genuinely want to hear from you. If you have concerns, questions or worries, please contact us and let us know. Equally, if there is something we have done well, I always appreciate hearing that too.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for another successful year at The Prescott School. Below is a reminder of how we start the new term.

September Return Arrangements (first week)

We hope you all have a wonderful summer break and look forward to welcoming our students back in September.

Thursday 3 September 2026

Only Year 7 and Year 11 students should attend school on this day.

Year 7

- **8:20am** – Arrive and line up.
- Students will spend the morning in tutor groups, receive their timetables, attend a welcome assembly, and have time to familiarise themselves with the school.
- The school day will finish at the normal time.

Year 11

- **10:00am** – Arrive and line up.
- Students will go to tutor groups before attending a year group assembly.
- The school day will finish at the normal time.

Friday 4 September 2026

All year groups will be in school. Please note that Year 11 have different start times on this day only.

Year Group	Arrival Time	Where to Go
Year 7	8:30am	Straight to line up *
Year 8	8:30am	Straight to line up *
Year 9	8:30am	Straight to line up *
Year 10	8:30am	Straight to line up *
Year 11	10:30am	Straight to line up before joining lessons

***Early start on this Friday ONLY**

Yours sincerely,



Mr. M. Reynolds
Principal