



8th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a busy first week back but a very positive one. The visit of Ofsted this week was an opportunity to show how far we have come on our improvement journey. I was incredibly proud to show the inspection team the positive culture and climate for learning in all classrooms, as well as the mature behaviour and superb leadership skills of the students and of course talk about the greatly improved outcomes and our plans to improve even further. The inspectors were very complimentary about the students so please pass on how impressed they were and how proud I was.

This was a monitoring visit which means we will get a letter summarising their views in about four weeks. I am looking forward to being able to share it with you! There is still much work to be done and I would like to thank you for your ongoing support. A close partnership between school and home is a vital element that we will always be keen to develop further.

One key area I will always focus on is improving attendance. Unless it is an absolute necessity, students need to be in school getting their education. The data is clear that if your child attends this school then they will succeed: 86% of Year 11 students with 90% attendance last year passed English and Maths! Our Deep Support team will work with families to remove barriers to ensure students attend of course, and please get in touch proactively. I am already very pleased that student punctuality has greatly improved this year. This means that the learning of other students is not interrupted and their knowledge can be built at a faster rate. Thank you for continuing to ensure your child is in school on time every day.

I do have an important staffing update to share. Mrs Lynch is moving to be our Head of Year 11. The students already know Mrs Lynch well and she will also continue to advise the Deep Support team on her previous year group. Mrs Doherty will be our Head of Year 9.

There will also be a change to the operation of all bus services in Manchester in the coming months, as the Mayor's office starts to oversee them as part of its Bee Network. One change to report is that from January the bus prices will be reduced. I have put the prices at the end of this letter – they will apply from January.

Linked to this, can I ask that students are not dropped off or picked up at the front of the school unless it is absolutely necessary. There is ample parking on Crown Point North. Students can also exit via the back path onto Edgerton Street where there is less traffic. The congestion and risk of traffic to students at the front of school is something I would like to significantly reduce, and need your support to do this.

I will finish by again thanking all our students for their immaculate conduct this week. I really have been incredibly proud.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "d. cumming".

Mr D Cumming
Acting Headteacher

ACTING HEADTEACHER: MR D CUMMING

From January 2025, the fares on Bee Network services (including TfGM School Services) will be:

- *A new £1 'Hopper' fare will replace child single tickets, allowing them to hop on a number of Bee Network buses within 60 minutes of buying a ticket on the bus (available on bus only).*
- *1-day Bee Bus ticket: £5 Adult / £2.50 Child*
- *7-day Bee Bus ticket: £20 Adult / £10 Child*
- *28-day Bee Bus ticket: £80 Adult / £40 Child*

The 1-day, 7-day and 28-day tickets provide unlimited travel on all buses in Greater Manchester (including TfGM School Services) and are available to purchase on the Bee Network app, on bus (1-day & 7 day), Bee Network Travel & Information Offices and PayPoint (7-day & 28-day).

There are also some fares which are only valid on TfGM School Services:

- *Return – £2*
- *TfGM School Weekly Ticket – £7.60 (available to purchase only as a smart ticket on bus and at a Bee Network Travel & Information Office)*
- *Carnet (10 Single Trips) – £10 (available to purchase only as a smart ticket on bus and at a Bee Network Travel & Information Office)*