

Principal's Newsletter

6 September 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

Despite the decidedly autumnal weather this week, today the sunshine is pouring through the windows of Liverpool College and the campus has a summer feeling on the first Friday of the new school year. But even if the weather has been wet at times there has certainly been no dampening of spirits as the children returned to school bright, keen, enthusiastic and eager for the year ahead.

As I write my first newsletter as Principal of Liverpool College for this academic year I can reflect back on the week with pride. It has been an excellent start to the year and the campus has a real energy and sense of purpose with children enjoying seeing both their friends and teachers once again after the summer break. This positive start is thanks to all the support and preparative work that you have given to the children: if there was a sense of relief as you waved your charges off on day one of the new school year you didn't show it!

Over the summer break our Estates Team, under the new leadership of Mr Peel, have done a marvellous job painting, building, repairing and preparing for the year ahead. It has all been done with energy and purpose and the campus looks great. Speaking of the campus, you may have noticed two new temporary classrooms on the secondary site in front of the Sixth Form building, Godwyn House. Despite some initial groans of "they smell too new!" these necessary eyesores are spacious, fully equipped and comfortable, a far cry from the 'mobiles' I remember from my youth. The good news is that work on the new build has continued apace and completion is anticipated before the end of this year. But more on this later.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our pupils on their impressive external examination results in the summer, as well as some wonderful LC+ achievements. You can read more about our GCSE and A Level and BTEC results on the school website [here](#) and [here](#). These results demonstrate what can be achieved when we all work together: parents, teachers, and the pupils themselves. At the start of term I spoke to both the staff at the INSET days and parents at the Chapter Information Evenings about collaboration and working together in the shared responsibility of making every child the best they possibly can be. It is vital that we maintain this positive and constructive communication as we strive for greater consistency, for equity and for inclusivity across every phase of the College.

One of the reasons for our positive start is the extension and development of the senior school mobile phone policy. Our continued ban on possessing or using a phone on the school campus is key in our continued efforts to improve behaviour, communal life and relationships and to keep every child safe. This year we have invested in a lockable mobile phone cabinet for every form room and I thank you for your continued support with this important policy.

It was a pleasure to meet many of you this week at the Chapter Information Evenings. Thank you to all that attended. These evenings are an opportunity for us to look forward to the year ahead, address any concerns and clarify what can be for some a daunting and overwhelming list of expectations and standards for the year ahead. I attach below a copy of our PPC Learner Profile, Character Charter and Lerpoolian Standards against which we are all measured at Liverpool College, rewarding where we go above and beyond and working with those individuals when we fall below.



Next week on **Wednesday (11 September)** we are holding our **Chapter 7 Open Evening** from 3.30pm - 5.30pm for those interested in joining the school in September 2025. Please be aware that we are expecting a large number of visitors so roads around the campus are likely to be busier than normal at the end of the school day. We will also be asking pupils and students in Chapters 8 and above to volunteer to help during the event and we hope you will encourage your child to take part.

Advance notice that **Friday 11 October** is **Liverpool College's Founders' Day** and as usual, school will be closed that day with no lessons in any part of the school. A Service takes place at 12pm in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral for pupils in the Prep and Secondary Phase. Parents will be sent further information about the specific arrangements.

I am afraid that I must draw your attention to the parking and traffic around the school campus. We have received accounts of near misses and complaints of cars stopping in the middle of the road to drop pupils off. We appreciate how busy the area around the school site is at the start and the end of the day but this does not mean that we can or should set aside safe parking and safe driving. There are areas just slightly further from the school which are much less congested and quieter. Please consider parking there and covering the remaining distance on foot.

Mr Bishop (Director of Music) reports on this summer's successful music tour:



Over the summer, the music department completed a successful tour of The Rhineland, Germany, performing a number of concerts to audiences of locals, tourists and supporting parents. The concerts consisted of performances by the choir, orchestra, Jazz band, student bands, soloists and duets - a real mixed programme! When not performing, the pupils enjoyed relaxing on a river cruise down the Rhine, exploring Marksburg Castle, shopping in Koblenz, a day in Phantasieland theme park, a visit to Beethoven's house and stocking up at the Haribo Factory. The experiences and memories created on the music tours really do last a lifetime.



In other music-related news, Mr Bishop created a specialised keyboard room for use by groups of keyboard-playing pupils. It contains a piano, harpsichord, virginal and two-manual electric organ - a real addition to our arsenal of instruments! We hope these instruments will inspire pupils to have a go and perhaps take up learning an instrument. Details of these opportunities will be sent to parents via MCAS.

Mrs Harper has asked me to highlight the opportunity for secondary pupils to take part in this year's musical:

Liverpool College's Upper School musical this year will be School of Rock! If you're eager to be part of something thrilling, bursting with energy, and ready to join a talented team, then don't miss out! Auditions will be held after school on Monday, 16th and Thursday, 19th September. Keep an eye out for the audition packs on MCAS.

Thank you for your continued support in the shared responsibility of the education of your children. I am very much looking forward to the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Haynes." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.

Mrs A Haynes
Principal