



Urmston Grammar School

4th September

RE: A New School Year

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer break and also are looking forward to the return of the routines which the start of a new school year brings.

This is my seventh year at Urmston Grammar School and though I will have met many of you in my previous roles I believe it is important to re-introduce myself as the new Headteacher. I feel extremely proud to be leading our school into a new chapter and am fortunate to work alongside a staff of dedicated and talented colleagues and a student body full of polite, enthusiastic and motivated young people. Urmston Grammar has a strong tradition of providing a first-class education to every single student and it is my ambition to ensure this continues long into the future.

This summer we celebrated some truly exceptional examination results. Our Year 11 cohort secured excellent GCSEs and a record number of our students have chosen to remain at Urmston Grammar into Year 12 for their A Level study. The performance of our Year 13 cohort was stronger still having achieved the highest A Level results in our school's history. This year 76% of all A Level grades were A*-B and these have unlocked a vast array of future career paths. Almost 150 students have secured places at university, a number are starting Level 6 and 7 Apprenticeships and 2 are training as airline pilots. This year our most popular post-18 destination is the University of Manchester where 20 of our students are due to begin their undergraduate study in the coming weeks.

I am pleased to welcome many new members to our school community. First and foremost, Mr Regan has taken up position as the new Deputy Headteacher. He is now part of our Senior Leadership Team and will play a key role in leading the strategic direction of our school. We also welcome as permanent staff members Miss Cooper to our Computer Science Department, Mr Singh to our Business & Economics Department and Mrs Makinwa to our SEND team. Almost 100 students have joined Year 12 having completed their GCSEs at other schools across Greater Manchester. I am sure they will quickly settle into the sixth form and begin making their mark over the coming weeks. Lastly, our new Year 7 cohort have also made a strong start to their journey at Urmston Grammar as I look forward to seeing them thrive in the years to come.



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This academic year sees the introduction of our new [Mobile Device Policy](#) whereby Urmston Grammar has become a phone-free school for all students in Years 7 to 11. Yesterday was our first day of this new way of working and staff have been extremely pleased with how the vast majority of students who have calmly engaged with this new system. Like with any significant change in school, there will be a period of adjustment and some snagging issues will likely occur as new routines are embedded. I am however very optimistic that this will be a positive step forward to our school community. As a reminder, the [Parent & Carer Guide](#) was circulated last term should you wish to remind yourself of how this policy is being implemented. I would like to highlight in particular page 6 '*What if a student has an appointment and needs to leave school early?*' as this may be useful in the future.

There are a wide range of events scheduled in the school calendar for the year ahead and a number of key dates are provided below. Information about each of these events will be circulated throughout the year but as many families have busy schedules I hope this advanced notice will allow you sufficient time to make arrangements to attend.

Many thanks for your ongoing support and I look forward to the year ahead.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Kennedy-Fowler', written in a cursive style.

Tom Kennedy-Fowler
Headteacher



Urmston Grammar School

Year 7	
Y7 Information Evening	Wednesday 17 th September
Y7 'Lets Sing'	Thursday 6 th November
Y7 Parents & Carers Evening	Tuesday 21 st April

Year 8	
Y8 Learning to Learn Evening	Tues 14 th October
Y8 Parents & Carers Evening	Thursday 4 th December

Year 9	
GCSE Options Evening	Wednesday 14 th January
Y9 Parents & Carers Evening	Thursday 29 th January

Year 10	
Y10 Information Evening	Thursday 25 th September
Y10 Parents & Carers Evening	Wednesday 18 th March

Year 11	
Sixth Form Open Evening	Wednesday 12 th November
Y11 Parents & Carers Evening & Exam Briefing	Wednesday 7 th January

Year 12	
Y12 Information Evening	Thursday 11 th September
Consultation Evening (invite only)	Thursday 20 th November
Y12 Parents & Carers Evening	Tuesday 26 th February
Post-18 Information Evening	Thursday 7 th May

Year 13	
Y13 Parents & Carers Evening	Tuesday 7 th October
Consultation Evening 1 (invite only)	Wednesday 9 th December
Consultation Evening 2 (invite only)	Wednesday 1 st April

All Year Groups	
Festival of Christmas	Wednesday 17 th December
School Production	Tuesday 3 rd to Thursday 5 th February
Celebration Evening (invite only)	Monday 6 th July