



7th September 2016

Dear Parent / Carer,

We have had a great start to this new academic year and I must thank all parents, carers, teachers and the learners themselves for all the hard work and effort that has enabled this to be the case. Welcome to our new Year 7 learners and I am looking forward to getting to know them over the forthcoming weeks.

A Warm Welcome to New Teaching Staff

We welcome our new members of staff:

- Mrs Read, Lead Teacher of Believe;
- Mr Caygill, Teacher of Science;
- Mr Ambridge, Teacher of Technology;
- Mrs Byers, HLTA Believe;
- Mrs Ward, HLTA Believe; and
- Mrs Slater – Finance Manager.

Exam Results

I must congratulate all our previous Year 11 learners who did exceptionally well with their exam results and gave Kepier the best results this school has ever seen. Well done!

The old headline results, which you will be familiar with, show us to be one of the top performing schools in the area.

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|--------------------------|-------|
| • 5+ A*-C inc. Eng/Maths | = 62% |
| • 5+ A*-G | = 98% |
| • EBacc | = 18% |
| • English A* - C | = 80% |
| • Maths A* - C | = 68% |
| • English progress | = 90% |
| • Maths progress | = 67% |
| • Science (2 A*-C) | = 68% |

The government has changed the criteria on which progress and attainment are judged. The new headline data does not include the 5 A*-C measure. Our results were also excellent based on this new criteria and again we are one of the top performing schools in the area.

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|----------------------|---------|
| • Progress 8 | = 0.1 |
| • Attainment 8 | = 48.49 |
| • Basics (Eng/Maths) | = 66% |
| • EBacc | = 18% |

Planner

All learners have been given a revised planner, which is their 'passport' to learning. Learners will be expected to use this 'tool for learning' in all their lessons and as a communication tool for you to get in touch with us. It has been developed to help you and your child with their learning, so please do take the time to read through it, sign it on a weekly basis and use it to communicate with us. Any Y11 learners leaving the school premises at lunchtime will have

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to show the planner and any learner out of class during normal lesson time must keep their planner with them.

Partnership Working

We have developed good links with our neighbouring Police Station who would like to exercise their police dogs on our site from time to time. We will be supporting them in the 'search dog' training exercises. This will be carried out under strict guidelines and will pose no risk to staff, learners or visitors to the school site.

School Website

We have a new look website which will be launched next week and I do encourage you to visit it (www.kepier.com). All letters to parents will be stored on the website as well as up to date news about activities and dates.

General Information

We have updated our school information resource for all year groups. It can be found in the Standards Booklet. A copy was posted to all parents and carers in the summer holidays and you can also access this booklet via the website by following the link <http://www.kepier.com/parents>

Free School Meals

We encourage you to apply for free school meals if you are entitled to do so. An application form is available from Children's Services Finance at the Civic Centre; Telephone 0191 5611417. You can also collect one from the school reception.

Open Evening - Wednesday 21st September, 5pm – 7pm

Many learners like to attend this event and I would encourage you to allow them to develop their leadership skills by taking an active role in supporting the school on this night.

Important Dates Coming Up

- Wednesday 21st September – Open Evening (5pm – 7pm)
- Wednesday 12th October (4pm - 6pm) - Year 11 Information Evening
- Half Term Holiday Closure – 24th October to 28th October
- Wednesday 23rd November - Year 7 Parents' Evening (4 - 6pm)
- Christmas Holiday Closure - Monday 19th December 2016 to Tuesday 3rd January 2017 inclusive.

I am looking forward to a happy, hardworking and successful year for all our learners.

With all good wishes,

Nicola Cooper
Principal

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