

Principal: Nicola Cooper BA (Hons), NPQH

Kepier  
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**Kepier**  
Believe in you

July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

This academic year has been another successful year for Kepier; culminating the formation of the Learning Matters Trust. Kepier is a very good school in many respects and this has been achieved by all the hard work of our staff and learners as well as the much appreciated support and encouragement from you, our parents and carers.

### Last day of term arrangements

The school will be closing for the Summer holiday on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017. Learners will attend their coaching groups from 1.10pm and will leave at 1.45pm. Parents/carers will need to ensure that suitable arrangements are made for their children.

The end of a year is always tinged with sadness as well as joy, as we say goodbye to some valued colleagues. However, we are delighted to have recruited some excellent teaching and support staff to continue the journey to outstanding.

Year 11 learners have now left us and we anticipate positive GCSE results in August, although it is sad to see them leave we know they go into the wider world prepared for future learning and ready to embrace all the opportunities available to them.

Over the past few weeks we have welcomed year 6 and year 5 learners from local primary schools for taster days and transition events, learners have left us exhausted but enthused about joining Kepier in the future. We look forward to welcoming our new learners in September and are always open to suggestions on improving transition in the future.

Thank you for your continued support with our rates of attendance, however we are not yet achieving 95% attendance and this will continue to be a focus for the coming year. We appreciate you not booking holidays during term time and despite recent court rulings. Kepier will continue to refuse holiday requests and such absences will be marked as unauthorised. **A child not in school is not learning and not making progress.**

We continue to work hard on important issues outside of the classroom. Our safeguarding practice is outstanding and the aim of the pastoral team is to ensure every child is safe and

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happy. The recent Health and Safety audit concluded with a gold standard seal of approval and our Careers Information and Guidance (CIAG) service received a nationally recognised silver award. Learner views are key to achieving these awards and we are very proud our young people feel involved in the life of the school and can articulate their views with such commitment and passion.

Please find below some information about Kepler which will be important for the coming year.

### Equipment

Please use the summer holidays to ensure that your son/daughter has all the equipment needed and correct uniform for September. If in doubt, do check the website for information or contact the school directly.

### School Uniform

Many thanks to all parents and carers for supporting us with our high standards of uniform. PE uniform is compulsory for all learners. We are looking forward to seeing all of our learners in the new uniform in September 2017. Our uniform can be bought from Total Sport in Sunderland ([www.totalsport-ne.co.uk](http://www.totalsport-ne.co.uk)).

We are collecting used, clean, uniform in support of Project Gambia, you can donate unwanted uniform throughout the summer by delivering to the main school reception.

### School Website

Please do keep up to date with school activities and news through our website. Term dates and inset days are published on-line, in planners and pastoral booklets. We would welcome your feedback on how we communicate with home.

### Biometric Registration and Parent Pay

The biometric cashless catering system and the electronic payments system (ParentPay) provides benefits to learners and parents in terms of speed of service and security of money. We are increasingly utilising ParentPay for school trips and would encourage you to activate your account.

If you change your contact details, you must also update them on ParentPay as Kepler does not have access to your ParentPay account.

**Finally, year 7 learners start at 8.30am with all other year groups starting at 10.50am**

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on Tuesday 5th September.

We wish you all a very happy holiday, and look forward to working with your sons and daughters again in September.

With all good wishes,

Nicola Cooper  
Principal

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