



**Teddington  
School**

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*Head of School: Kathy Pacey NPQH*

*Executive Headteacher: John Wilkinson MA NPQH*

19 October 2017

Dear Families

As this first half term draws to an end, I want to take the opportunity to write to you to express my thanks for making me feel so welcome. I am very much enjoying leading the day to day management of Teddington School and I am proud of the achievements of students and staff since the beginning of this academic year.

My main aim for this year is to develop and sustain outstanding teaching and learning and ensure all students achieve to their full potential, no matter what their starting point is. We believe there is no barrier to achievement and our culture of care and high expectation will ensure we cater for every student.

On Thursday 12 October I met with parents. During the evening I asked parents to write down any questions they had, which I am going to take time to answer in the next half term. I would like to thank all the parents that came to this evening; your input was invaluable. In the next half term I will also be providing feedback on the recent parent survey.

As part of my role as Head of Teddington School I will be in charge of teaching and learning strategies. I have already taken the time to visit a large number of lessons and I am impressed with the teaching and exemplary student attitude to learning. This was reinforced by the comments of prospective parents on their tours round the school during our recent Open Mornings. I will continue to build on the strengths in teaching and learning and ensure students meet or exceed their expectations.

We are very proud of the students' achievements at GCSE and A Level this year. The A Level results were well above national averages and above most other local providers and the most improved in the borough. This year's GCSE scores are based on a combination of reformed GCSEs (graded 1-9) and legacy GCSEs (graded A\*-G). As such it is not possible to directly compare with last year's results, yet our instinct is to look for comparison and evidence of continued improvement. It is pleasing to see the students achieve the school's highest scores of 84%, a 5% rise on last year.

The school's aim for the last three years has been to improve the progress students make from their starting point with us. Indeed progress scores across the school have risen, particularly in English and maths. The new Progress 8 measure won't necessarily reflect this improvement because it is calculated on the premise that students will take a particular combination of subjects that count towards the calculation. The school has a clearly stated principle to put the



student's needs before that of external measures and so the combination of subjects our students took were not determined by the formula used to calculate the Progress 8 figure. Governors, staff and I can reflect on the impact this principle has on the school, yet I know everyone associated with the school is very proud of our values and happy to explain them. We will continue to put the student's needs first and ensure that their curriculum choices and achievement will give them the best opportunity to take their next steps. The formula itself will take another two years to establish and provide real opportunities for all schools to compare performance and we will watch and take part in the national debate amongst school leaders on this issue with interest.

I look forward to meeting more families on the 8 November at 6pm at our Sixth Form Open Evening. Until then, I would like to wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely

Ms K Pacey  
Head of School