



PEMBROKE
A PRIORY ACADEMY

18th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another highly successful year at The Priory Pembroke Academy, I would like to take a moment to reflect on our achievements, share important updates, and look forward to the upcoming academic year of 2025/26.

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude for your unwavering support during my first year as Headteacher of the Academy. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you at Academy events and Parents' Evenings, and the feedback about the Academy has been overwhelmingly positive. Your collaboration with us in ensuring your child's success and happiness at Pembroke has played a key role in our journey this year.

I am pleased to have built on the success of Pembroke to further improve the Academy to ensure we provide the very best for our students. This year alone, we have invested heavily in the school site by building canopies, installing updated, current displays around the Academy, redecorating the hall including all new lighting and blinds and installing a new fence around the field and tennis courts so that these are now a useable outdoor spaces for students. We have further exciting building projects happening over the summer, including the building of an outdoor learning environment in the garden area and the new Design and Technology rooms. I look forward to sharing this with you in the new academic year.

In addition to the school site, we have worked hard to ensure classrooms are calm, orderly and conducive to learning. Our new behaviour system has seen incidents of low-level disruption drop significantly; this enables students to maximise every minute in the classroom. From September we will also have a Restorative Room plus Inclusion which will support intensive intervention and counselling for those students who require additional support.

Furthermore, we have placed a lot of emphasis on improving the quality of education across the Academy to ensure that lessons are challenging and engaging, and that all students are catered for. The introduction of the consistent Learning Challenge which is focused on the acquisition of knowledge has proved to be highly effective in supporting students to understand what they are learning and how. This will continue into the next academic year with a continued staff focus on metacognition. We have introduced the parent Curriculum Guide this year too which gives all parents an overview, by module, of what their children are learning in each subject. Parental feedback has been excellent.

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A highlight of each module has become the Rewards afternoons; it was been lovely to see students celebrating their successes and achievements with their peers and simply having fun. This will continue into the new academic year with a renewed focus on updating our Rewards system to ensure students are rewarded for being in school, in correct uniform and engaged with their learning.

It has been an incredibly busy, but exciting year. I would like to thank all staff, students, parents/carers and wider stakeholders for the part you have played in enabling these improvements to the Academy to happen. We have many more exciting plans ahead, and we look forward to sharing these with you in due course. I encourage you to explore our social media platform, where we showcase our journey of "Achieving Together." We regularly post updates onto our Facebook page so that the wider community can share and be part of our successes and achievements. Please take a look and if you have any comments or questions please contact the Academy in the usual way.

Finally, we were very excited to launch the new house system last week to students. This is an exciting development for the Academy which will further foster cohesion, collaboration and relationships between students across the year groups. Our Heads of House have loved sorting out their new House bases around the Academy and creating a real team spirit with students and staff. From September there will be House assemblies alternated with year group assemblies so that students get to spend time with peers of all age groups.

In September, we are excited to welcome over 120 new students, with an additional 35+ students on the waiting list eager to join our school family. Our capacity in other year groups has reached its limit, reflecting the tremendous growth of Pembroke from 160 students in September 2017 to over 600 in September 2025. We take great pride in this achievement and realise that this has taken a number of years to achieve. We will now continue to take the Academy on its journey to exceptional pastoral support and academic excellence for all.

As is customary at this time of year, we bid a fond farewell to some staff members who are moving on to pursue further growth in their careers. This year, we say goodbye to:

Mrs Young – Head of Year 11 and science teacher
Miss Escandon – Spanish teacher
Miss Malton – Humanities teacher
Mr Melton – Humanities teacher
Mr Brooke – IT Technician

We wish all our departing staff members every success in their future endeavours and thank them for their service to our students this year. Each and everyone of them has given of their time, commitment and enthusiasm. Especial thanks must go to Mrs Young who led the year 11 Prom and ensured it was a night to remember! All staff have been replaced with highly skilled subject specialists for September therefore it is with pleasure that we can inform you that we are fully staffed with subject specialists plus with the addition of an undergraduate in-house science tutor and two Pupil Premium Champions to support mentoring and additional provision.

As we move into a new school year, we remain committed to maintaining high standards and the core values of Pembroke. To ensure every student is prepared for the academic challenges ahead, it is essential that all are properly equipped with the necessary materials for the new year. A comprehensive list of required uniforms and

supplies can be found on our website. Please make sure to review this list and acquire everything needed for a successful start to the term.

Our rules of being Ready, Safe, and Respectful continue to be integral to our school community and underpin our approach. These principles are not only important for a productive school environment, but are also vital skills that will benefit students in their future endeavours.

Attendance and punctuality are of utmost importance. Regular attendance maximises learning opportunities, and being punctual is a valuable habit that students will carry into their future lives. We encourage all students to strive for excellent attendance and to arrive on time every day. Good attendance in school is directly linked to academic outcomes, future prosperity and wellbeing which is what we want for the students in our care. I would like to take this opportunity by thanking all staff at Pembroke for creating a purposeful, calm and productive learning environment for our students. They each contribute to making Pembroke what it is—a wonderful, safe place for both work and learning. Lastly, congratulations to our students, who have shown great determination and deserve all their achievements. The vast majority of our students have demonstrated our Academy values to the utmost of their ability and are an absolute credit to their school plus to you, their parents and carers.

Our staff members are now taking a well-deserved break, and communication over the summer may experience delays. We will periodically check the main email (pembroke@prioryacademies.co.uk).

Lastly, I wish all staff, parents/carers and students a restful summer, and we look forward to welcoming all students back on Wednesday, 3rd September, for an 8:35 am prompt start!

Yours faithfully,

Mrs H Spoors


Headteacher

Mr M Dominy


Deputy Headteacher

Mr G Warnock


Assistant Headteacher

Mrs S Warnock


Assistant Headteacher

Mrs K Black


Assistant Headteacher

Ms L Empson


Assistant Headteacher