

St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX
Headteacher: Mr James Potter



29th August 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families have all had relaxing summer, I am looking forward to welcoming our returning pupils and of course the new members of our community. I hope our pupils are all looking forward to and are ready for the new academic year ahead.

Over the summer, staff at SMA have been hard at work ensuring that our Academy is ready for the year ahead. I am pleased to share that several important updates have been made to enhance the learning environment and ensure the safety and well-being of all our pupils. One significant project completed was the improvement of our carpark area. These changes were necessary to ensure a safer environment for our community. We have also upgraded some of our secondary washroom facilities to provide a more comfortable and hygienic environment, we have added CCTV in the communal area of the new design and we hope that these changes will contribute to a better experience for our pupils while not infringing on their privacy whilst using the facilities.

We begin the new term on Wednesday 4th September 2024, with a staggered timetable for secondary pupils, primary pupils will start at their normal time **of 8.50am.**

Wednesday 4 September - Start Times	
Year 7	8.35am
Year 8	9.35am
Year 9	9.35am
Year 10	9.35am
Year 11	8.35am

Uniform

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of our uniform expectations. The vast majority of our pupils adhere to our uniform expectations and wear their uniform with pride. These pupils are excellent ambassadors for the Academy, both on and off site and promote a strong school identity which in turn promotes a sense of pride and belonging.

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed appropriately, following the guidelines outlined in our Uniform Policy, which can be found [here](#) on our website.

Mobile Phones

We believe that mobile phones are a distraction and while pupils are at school we want them to be completely focused on their learning and interacting positively with their peers and staff. In essence St Matthew Academy is a mobile phone free zone for all pupils. This means mobiles should not be seen or heard while on the Academy site, at any time during the school day or before and after school. Mobile phones must be switched off and placed in bags before entering the Academy site and they should not be placed in trouser or blazer pockets. If a pupil is found with a mobile phone while on site the phone will be confiscated.

I have added some key dates for your reference for our first half term and would like to take this opportunity thank you for your continued support and look forward to meeting you all soon.

Yours faithfully

Mr James Potter
Headteacher

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St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London, SE3 0XX

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Integrity, Courage, Service

St Matthew Academy Key Dates

Date	Secondary Key Events
Thursday 5 September	Year 7 & 10 Photographs
Tuesday 17 September	Year 6 – 7 Open Morning – 9.15am to 10.45am
Wednesday 18 September	Year 6 – 7 Open Afternoon – 1.15pm to 2.45pm
Thursday 19 September	Year 6 – 7 Open Morning – 9.15am to 10.45am Year 11 Information Evening – 4.30pm to 6.00pm
Friday 20 September	Feast of St Matthew Liturgies
Tuesday 24 September	Year 6- 7 Open Evening – 4.30pm to 7pm
Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2 October	Year 6- 7 Open Morning – 9.15am to 10.45am
Wednesday 3 October	Year 6- 7 Open Afternoon – 1.15pm to 2.45pm
Wednesday 16 October	Year 6- 7 Open Morning – 9.15am to 10.45am
Friday 25 October	SMA Cultural Day

Date	Primary Key Events
Tuesday 10 September	Meet the Teacher – 3.30pm to 4.30pm
Monday 16 September	After School Clubs & Interventions begin
Friday 20 September	Feast of St Matthew Liturgies
Friday 27 September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thursday 10 October	Family Film Night
Friday 25 October	Cultural Day