



10th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

WELCOME BACK!

I do hope that you enjoyed the Summer break and that your child has returned to school ready for the busy new school year and I warmly welcome those of you who are new parents/carers to the Cardinal Pole community.

Staff Changes

New staff changes this year include Mr Tilley (RE Teacher), Ms Higman (English Teacher), Ms Bool (English Teacher), Ms Argyrakis (Music Teacher), Mr Gentry (DT Teacher), Ms Muir (History Teacher), Ms Ojumu (Science Teacher - Biology), Mr Zaidi (Head of Computer Science) – we wish them a long and happy career with us.

Exam Results

I am also thrilled to announce another fantastic set of A-level results. These results are a testament to the exceptional efforts of our students, the unwavering support of their families, and the dedication of our talented teaching staff.

Results were strong with 83% students securing at least a grade C and nearly half securing grade B or above. These results secure the position of the Sixth Form as one in which students make excellent progress from GCSE with progress in Chemistry, History, Maths, Further Maths and Philosophy among the top 25% of schools in the country. Standout results were posted by the Maths Department, with 100% students achieving at least a Grade C and 85% securing a Grade B or above. These strong results were also evident in Chemistry, Further Maths and Physics. CTEC subjects also performed exceptionally well, with 96% students achieving at least MMM and nearly half of all students securing the top grades of DDD+. Once again, this puts the school in the top 25% schools in the country for student progress.

Highlights from individual students include Sarah (D*D*D*) in Health & Social Care, Kamari (D*D*D) in Business, Chianne, Jade and Daliza (D*DD) also in Health & Social Care. At A-Level, Viktoria secured A*AB in Maths, Further Maths and Physics and other impressive results were secured by Eva (AAB) in Chemistry, Maths and Physics; Daniel (AAB) in Economics, Psychology and Maths; Josiah (AAB) in Economics, Maths and Psychology; and Polina (AAB) in Business, Maths and Economics.

Results for GCSE were equally strong throughout the school, but some individual subject areas shone. 70% students secured at least a grade 4 in English and Maths and nearly half of the cohort achieved grade 5 or higher in these subjects. In Biology, Chemistry and Physics, 79% students secured a Grade 5 or above.

Seven students were awarded the highest grades of 7+ in all their GCSES including Siarra and Favour. Highlights from other individual students include: Blesslo who secured 5 grade 9s and 4 others at 7 or above; Emily who secured 4 Grade 9s and 5 more at 7 or above and Ayomide, Joshua and Jean-Chris who secured 3 grade 9s and 6 others at grade 7 or above.

School Day/Term Dates

As we start the new year, can I remind students and parents/carers of the timings of our school day (see below). I ask parents to remind their children that all Cardinal Pole students should leave site at the end of the day and make their way **straight home** after school to change out of uniform and that they are respectful to those in our local community. I should also remind parents/carers that our October half term is for two weeks (weeks commencing 19th & 26th October), returning to school on Monday 2nd November 2026. There will be lessons running for selected students in Years 11 & 13, please note you will be written to separately regarding this nearer the time.

PERIOD	TIMINGS
Prep	8.35am-9am
Period 1	9am-9.50am
Period 2	9.50am-10.40am
Break	10.40am-11.05am
Period 3	11.05am-11.55am
Period 4	11.55am-12.45pm
Lunch	12.45pm-1.20pm
Period 5	1.20pm-2.10pm
Period 6	2.10pm-3pm

Parent Evenings/Curriculum Evenings.

Please see a list below of all our parental engagement evenings this academic year. Please ensure you these dates are in your diary/calendar as attendance to these meetings are an essential part of ensuring success for your child.

PARENTS/ACHIEVEMENT EVENINGS			
YEAR 7 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 4th March
YEAR 8 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 28th January
YEAR 9 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 18th March
YEAR 10 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 14th January
YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 1st October
YEAR 12 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 12th November
YEAR 13 PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 15th October
YEAR 7/9 CURRICULUM EVENING			Thursday 19th November
YEAR 10 & 12 CURRICULUM EVENING			Thursday 6th May
YEAR 11 & 13 CURRICULUM EVENING			Thursday 17th September
YEAR 11/13 CRITICAL PARENTS' EVENING			Thursday 7th January

Parent Forum

Please note that Mr Hall and Mr O'Donoghue will be holding our first in person Headteachers' Parent Forum this year on Friday 25th September 2026 at 10am. It is an opportunity for you to learn more about Cardinal Pole and the events/activities that are coming up, provide feedback to the Headteachers and raise questions on whole school policy and practice. Please note that individual student concerns cannot be raised at this meeting, these should be discussed with your child's Head of Year in a separate meeting.

Open Evening/Early Close & Late Start

Whilst writing, I should inform parents/carers that the school will be closing early on Tuesday 22nd September at 12.45pm for the Sixth Form and Years 10 & 11 and at 1.15pm for Years 7-9 in preparation for our Open Evening. Students will be offered lunch if they wish and will leave site thereafter. The parents/carers of the students who are assisting with our Open Evening and required to stay behind will be written to separately.

Following Open Evening, students will be starting school late on Wednesday 23rd September with gates opening at 9.35am, registration at 9.40am and lessons will begin at 9.50am.

I wish you and your child every success this year at Cardinal Pole and I look forward meeting with you at our up-and-coming events/Parents' Evenings.

Yours in service,



Mr A Hall
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER



Mr A O'Donoghue
HEAD OF SCHOOL

