

5 September 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back Year 8 Students and Parents/Carers

We hope you have had a lovely summer holiday and that your child is feeling refreshed and ready to start this new academic year at Waldegrave.

I am very much looking forward to leading Year 8 this year and welcoming your child back to school. We aim to ensure that your child feels safe and empowered at Waldegrave and encourage them to make the most of all of the wonderful opportunities that we have available. Tutor activities and whole house events have been planned to ensure students are fully supported to develop into well rounded and confident young people, prepared to face the challenges ahead of them. We are focused on fostering the school values of **Enjoy, Achieve and Empower**, and we look forward to working with you in doing so.

In order for you to keep informed of Waldegrave events, I would encourage you to access the weekly parental bulletin, visit the school website, and follow the school on Twitter @WaldegraveSch.

Focus for Year 8 - Making a positive start

As we begin Year 8, we want the focus to be on supporting our students as they embark on the next stage of their learning. We hope that you will reinforce this at home by discussing the school day with your child and supporting them in their use of Google Classrooms to keep abreast of homework, lesson resources etc. The shared aim for all of the Year 8 community is to start the year positively and remember the Waldegrave first rule; respect and value learning, each other, and our environment.

Uniform and equipment:

Please can you ensure the following:

- All students have the appropriate pens, pencils, a ruler etc, ready for a new school year.
- Students are to keep mobile phones in bags or lockers to abide by our 'not seen, not heard' rule.
- Students do not come to school wearing gel nails, nose studs or false eyelashes.
- Make up and nail varnish should not be worn.
- Wrist watch only - no smartwatch / fitbit devices.
- One set of plain stud earrings. A small simple necklace can be worn but should not be visible.
- Uniforms are worn appropriately and correctly.

Making contact with the school:

Wellbeing/ Pastoral support:

For any issues/queries relating to your child's wellbeing, mental health or if they are having friendship issues the first point of contact should be your child's Form Tutor. Any queries can be escalated to me as Head of Year if deemed appropriate. You can contact your child's Form Tutor

by emailing into KS3@waldegravesch.org and in the subject line write 'FAO Mr/Mrs ...'. This will then be sent directly to the appropriate member of staff.

**If you have any safeguarding concerns that relate to your child or another child within school, please contact the school for the attention of Mrs Rook and Ms Moore/Mr Greaves. We will ensure that we get back to you as soon as possible.

Subject Specific concerns:

If you have any subject specific concerns relating to progress / tests or homework then please contact your child's Subject Teacher. You can find their name on your child's timetable and can email them via info@waldegravesch.org. In the subject line, please write 'FAO Ms/Mr' along with the subject name and your message will be forwarded on to the appropriate staff member.

What can I expect from 'enrichment' for Year 8?

This year your child has chosen an additional subject to enrich their learning. Thank you to all families for helping with this process. Each student's allocated enrichment option will be added to their timetable.

Purchasing a chromebook:

If you do not currently own a chromebook and would like to purchase one then please contact us via KS3@waldegravesch.org and write in the subject line 'Chromebook Purchase Year 8'.

Important dates for you and your child are listed below.

Event	Dates
Year 8 PCM	Wednesday 12 November 2025
Year 8 Monitoring Data	February 2026 and April 2026

* Please note that more specific details of these events will follow in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs M Rook
Head of Year 8

Mr P Greaves
Head of Key Stage 3

Enjoy . Achieve . Empower

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