



Monday 7th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Welcome Back

As we prepare to welcome our young people back to Gosford Hill following the summer break, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself to you as the Interim Headteacher of the school, and to share some important information about the coming term.

I am stepping into the post at Gosford on a full-time basis, moving across from my substantive role as Director of Secondary Education at the River Learning Trust. We anticipate that my period of leadership here will last until December 2026, and are seeking to appoint a permanent headteacher to take up the post in January 2027. I'm pleased to report that we have already received much interest in the post, and are therefore confident that we will be able to make an excellent appointment for the school.

Fortunately, my responsibilities within the River Learning Trust mean that I know the school well already, and will maintain close ties with the school beyond this interim period. I am delighted to have the opportunity to get to know the school and the local community better whilst in the interim post.

I also want to pay tribute to the huge contribution made to the school by Nigel Sellars, who has provided a decade's dedicated and committed service to the school and the wider community of Kidlington. Mr Sellars has left a school with many strengths, an exciting future, and his legacy will live long here.

As you will be aware, the rebuild programme, which will see the school moving into state-of-the-art new buildings during the academic year 2027/28, is very much underway. This means that the site has a very different look this term, with some new classroom spaces and changes to the layout. I am very grateful to the school staff, who have been working hard to prepare the site so that return to school will run as smoothly as possible.

There are two practical matters which I wanted to bring your attention to in particular. These are:

Drop-off Arrangements

Please note that, due to the construction work, there is no space at all on the school site for cars to drop off children in the mornings, or to pick up at the end of the day. We would therefore ask that:

- Students walk or cycle to school wherever possible
- If car transport is essential, that parents plan for a different location to drop off, even if this means a short walk to school is necessary



The main entrance to school remains on Oxford Road.

We very much appreciate your support in this matter, which will be essential in ensuring safe and orderly arrival and departure for staff and students throughout the rebuild period.

Open Evening: Change of Date

In order to avoid clashing with other local secondary schools, we have made an adjustment to the calendar for this term. This means that:

- **Open Evening will now be on Wednesday 23rd September**, not Thursday 24th September as previously advertised.
- **Wednesday 23rd September will now be an early finish** for all year groups, with school ending at 1:25pm.
- **Thursday 24th September will now be a full school day**, with school ending at 3:15pm as normal
- **Friday 25th September remains an INSET day** as planned, with no students expected in school on that day.

Finally, we are very much looking forward to the young people returning to school this week; I look forward to meeting them and many of you, over the coming weeks and months.

Best wishes,

Mr T Boulter
Interim Headteacher