

5th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families have had a restful and enjoyable summer. It has been a pleasure to welcome students back to Clyst Vale this week. Across all year groups, students have made a positive start to the term, returning with energy, enthusiasm and a readiness to learn. We are especially proud of our Year 11 students, who have shown real maturity and focus as they begin their final year and our new Year 7 cohort, who have settled in brilliantly and are already making a strong impression. It is vital that we maintain this momentum and continue to build on these excellent first steps.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring students arrive in full uniform. Uniform is about more than appearance — it sets the tone for learning, promotes a sense of belonging, and reflects our shared values. First impressions matter, and we want every student to start each day with the right mindset. We also recognise that uniform can be a significant expense, especially as students grow, misplace items, or need replacements throughout the year. To support families, our PTFA runs a second hand uniform shop, which is a great way to access good-quality items at a reduced cost. Details can be found on the Uniform page of our website: [Uniform – CVCC](#)

Last year was a fantastic year for the College, marked by several achievements that reflect the strength and spirit of our community. We were proud to retain our Rights Respecting School Gold Status following reaccreditation — a recognition of our deep commitment to respect, inclusion and student voice. We launched our new House System, designed to strengthen students' sense of belonging and create more opportunities for everyone to participate in the wider life of the College. We ended the year on a high with a vibrant Activities Week and a Camps International trip to Kenya, which proved to be a transformative experience for all involved. We were also incredibly proud of our students who collected their A Level and GCSE results this summer. Their outcomes reflect the consistent effort and commitment they showed throughout their time at Clyst Vale. A wide range of achievements were secured across subjects, with many students reaching personal milestones and demonstrating academic excellence. These successes are a testament to the dedication of our learners, the expertise and support of our staff, and the encouragement from parents, carers and the wider community. As students move on to the next stage of their education, training or employment, we are confident that the knowledge, skills and values developed at Clyst Vale will continue to support them in whatever path they choose.

This year we have some new teaching staff joining the College and we are pleased to welcome Millie Roberts to the English Department and Jim Ingham Hill to the PE Department. In addition, three of our experienced middle leaders have been seconded to the Senior Leadership Team to lead on key College improvement priorities: Meghan McConachie (Head of Year 11), Maria Serven (Head of Science), and Zoe Brotherton (Head of Beliefs and Values) have all now been appointed to the role of Associate Principals. These promotions are thoroughly well deserved and reflect their outstanding contributions to the College. We know they will bring energy, expertise and vision to their new roles, and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them. This is a significant step in our ongoing improvement journey and reflects our commitment to developing leadership from within.

Key Updates and Changes for This Term

As we begin the new year, I want to draw your attention to some important updates across the College. For safeguarding reasons, there is now one point of entry to the site, this is the gate by the coach park and all students must enter through this route. In addition, all teaching spaces, including the field, and tennis courts are now food-free zones. This change supports hygiene, reduces litter, and ensures that our learning environments remain focused and respectful. We have also made changes to our behaviour processes to ensure disruption-free learning and a consistent approach across the College. Details of this have already been sent to you by Mr Sutton, for reference you can access a copy of this letter on the College website: [Letter-to-Parents-New-Behaviour-Process-Sept25.pdf](#). These changes are rooted in our Respect, Participate, Learn ethos and our relational approach. Tutors have explained the new system to students and we ask for your continued support in reinforcing these expectations at home. Parental partnership is vital in helping students understand the importance of positive behaviour and in ensuring that our shared values are upheld both in and out of the classroom.

Finally, to help ensure the safety of our students and the smooth running of daily operations, we kindly ask that parents and carers do not enter the College car parks to drop off or collect students. A designated drop-off lane is available in the coach park for morning drop-offs, and can also be accessed after 3:45pm, once the school buses have departed. This arrangement helps prevent congestion and ensures a safe environment for students boarding transport. We also ask families to be considerate of our neighbours by avoiding parking on private roads or across driveways. Your continued cooperation supports student safety and helps us maintain positive relationships within our community.

We are excited about the year ahead and confident that, working together, we can continue to build a thriving, inclusive and ambitious College community. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



Ms S Jacobs
Principal