



August 2009

Dear Parents

I hope that you have enjoyed your summer holidays and that your sons and daughters are looking forward to the start of the new academic year in September.

UCS Policy & Practice

Every year we take time over the summer holiday to update our school policies. We have taken the opportunity this year to conduct a major overhaul and a completely new set of statements of UCS Policy and Practice will be published on our website (www.ucs.org.uk) this week. I encourage all families who are new to UCS to take time to read the material online or to download it. If you would like separate copies of any specific policy statements, please let us know.

The new statements do not mark great changes in the school's policies, but they are fuller and more detailed. I would particularly draw your attention to our statements regarding safe and proper use of the internet, bullying, and child protection. All of these are issues that we take very seriously at UCS.

Absence and Lateness

It is very important that, if your son or daughter is likely to be absent or late on any school day, that you let us know before 8.50 a.m. on the day in question, either by telephone or by e-mail.

Absence Line: 020 7433 2136

Email: absence@ucs.org.uk

If we do not hear from you, the absence will be marked as unauthorised and will be followed by a telephone call home.

Students who arrive after morning registration at 8.50 a.m., **MUST** call in to the School Office to sign in on the late register, so that we know that they are at school.

Please remind your son/daughter that, if they have to leave school early (for family reasons or for medical appointments) then they **MUST** sign out at the School Office before they leave.

Beginning of Term

Although full term starts on Monday 7th September, I take this opportunity to remind you of meetings scheduled for certain year-groups on Friday 4th September:

Entry Year	10.30 am until noon
Lower Remove Year	10.00 am to 11.45 am
Transitus Year	09.30 am to 11.15 am

Meetings for Parents

As usual, we have arranged meetings for parents of particular year-groups early next term. Please note the following dates:

Transitus Parents	Monday 14 th September 2009 at 6.30 pm
Entry Year Parents	Tuesday 15 th September 2009 at 6.30 pm
Lower Remove Parents	Thursday 17 th September 2009 at 6.30 pm

Public Examination Results

Full details of this year's results at GCSE, and at A-level are posted on the UCS website. It has been another good year for us. The A-level results, although not our absolute best, are well in line with the excellent results of recent years (over 90% of passes at A or B, and nearly 70% at grade A alone). The GCSE results are a record with nearly 85% of passes at A or A*, and nearly half the year achieving a clean sweep of A or A* grades.

Road Works in Hampstead

Many of you will be aware that work on water mains is causing quite a lot of disruption for traffic in the Hampstead area. At the moment there are extensive road works in Arkwright Road, Frognaal and Heath Street. If you plan to deliver your son/daughter to school by car next week,

you should expect a slower journey and even more congestion than usual; it will certainly be a good idea to avoid the congested areas by dropping students a few streets away from UCS and letting them walk the rest of the way: it will do them good!

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Kenneth Johnson