



Eckington School

Chorus Education Trust

4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of the Spring Term, I would like to take this opportunity to provide parents and carers with some important updates and to thank you for your ongoing support. Please also have a read of our Term 2 Newsletter that outlines some of the great achievements and activities that have taken place since January.

Examination Season is Fast Approaching for our Year 11 and Year 13 Students

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students are working extremely hard in preparation for their upcoming exams, and we are incredibly proud of their commitment and dedication. The recent Year 11 *How to Support Your Child's Revision* parents' meeting was well received by our parents and students who attended the event, with our Heads of English, Maths, and Science providing invaluable advice and strategies to support students in their revision. We encourage all students to continue with their preparation over the Easter break. More information and resources that can help your child revise is available on the school's website and also on the school's SharePoint. I wish every Year 11 and Year 13 student every success in their forthcoming examinations.

Improving Attendance at Eckington School

I am pleased to inform you that attendance is improving across all year groups, with whole-school attendance higher than this time last year. As you may be aware from the recent news, the Department for Education have recently produced a report that highlights the importance of good attendance and its direct impact on academic success and future earnings. The link is here: [The impact of school absence on lifetime earnings](#).

We appreciate your support in ensuring that your child attends school regularly, as every lesson truly does count. The diagram below indicates attendance thresholds. Our aim is for all students to have attendance above 95% to help improve their chance of academic success and subsequently improve their life chances. If you would like to talk to someone about your child's attendance, please contact our attendance team.



Excellent Progress Being Made in Eckington's Sixth Form

Our Eckington Sixth Form continues to go from strength to strength. A recent Chorus Enquiry Visit (part of our Trust's quality assurance systems) highlighted the exceptional subject knowledge of our staff, the strong professional relationships between teachers and students, and the overwhelmingly positive student voice. Our sixth form students also benefit from small class sizes, allowing for personalised support and meaningful

Outstanding Achievement for All

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engagement in their studies. We are proud of the high-quality education they receive and the nurturing environment we have created for their success.

Improving Climate for Teaching and Learning

Firstly, I am delighted to share that the new interactive screens installed in classrooms for September are already having a significant positive impact on teaching and learning. These modern resources are helping to engage students, enhance lesson delivery, and create a more interactive learning experience.

Significant Investment in Eckington's School Building Announced

We are also incredibly grateful for the substantial financial investment from Chorus Education Trust to improve our school buildings. The first phase of this project, which includes the installation of new external windows and doors, is about to begin that will significantly enhance our learning environment.

Eckington Enrichment – Education Beyond the Classroom

We have seen a wealth of enrichment activities take place this term. I firmly believe that education extends beyond lessons, and I am proud of the opportunities our students have had to broaden their experiences, develop new skills, and explore their interests. I hope you enjoy reading more about these events in our Easter Newsletter, which highlights the incredible achievements and activities of our students.

New Catering Company with an Improved Menu

After Easter, we will be welcoming a new catering company, which we are confident will significantly improve the quality of food available to our students. Ensuring that our students have access to nutritious and appealing meals is essential, and we look forward to seeing the benefits of this change.

New Early Help Family Support Worker Appointed

I am pleased to inform you that we have recently appointed a full-time Facility Support Worker who will join our Safeguarding and Student Support Team. The new appointment will provide many families with additional support and will work closely with our Safeguarding Manager, our Designated Safeguarding Lead and other members of Eckington's Safeguarding and Student Support Team.

Improving Parental Engagement and Feedback

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the growing strength of parental engagement and voice. We recently had over 80% of parents attend the Year 9 Options Evening which is the highest attendance in over 20 years.

I would also like to inform parents that I personally review the feedback from the surveys completed after each parents' evening, and your input is invaluable in shaping our school improvement journey. I am pleased to inform you that parental feedback has significantly improved over the past 2 years. As always, we welcome your feedback, both in celebrating our successes and identifying areas for further development. Please continue to use the appropriate channels to share your thoughts with us.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Best wishes,



Richard M Cronin
Headteacher