



Ms Alison Pope, Head of School

19 July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for your continued support, encouragement and partnership. Schools are strongest when home and school work together, and your support throughout the year has been invaluable.

This has been a busy and successful year for St Martins School. Our pupils have represented the school exceptionally well, both in the classroom and beyond. We have enjoyed educational visits to our local area, trips further afield across the UK to towns and cities including Liverpool, and international opportunities including visits to Holland. Pupils have benefited from Enrichment Week activities, Sports Days, student leadership opportunities, School Council participation, Eco and community group projects, and many other experiences that have helped develop confidence, character and aspiration.

We are particularly proud of our cadets, who continue to perform at the very highest level nationally, and of the many pupils who have taken on leadership roles across the school community. These opportunities help prepare our young people for the future and enable them to make a positive difference both within school and beyond.

As many of you know, we have also been working with pupils to review our vision and values. Following extensive pupil voice, we have adopted three simple but powerful values:

Safe • Thoughtful • Motivated (STM)

These values have come directly from our pupils and will form the foundation of all our conversations, expectations and celebrations moving forward. We want every child at St Martins to feel safe, to act thoughtfully towards others and to approach their learning and wider experiences with motivation and determination. You will see STM becoming increasingly visible throughout the school environment and embedded into daily school life from September onwards. We ask parents and carers to support us by reinforcing these values at home.

Senior Leadership Team

As we move into the new academic year, I would also like to remind families of the wider senior leadership team who work together to support all aspects of school life:

- **Mrs Carol Jones** – Deputy Headteacher (Primary)
- **Mrs Stella Ellis** – Assistant Headteacher (Inclusion)
- **Ms Hannah Weaver** – Assistant Headteacher (Safeguarding and Personal Development)
- **Mrs Zoe Mottershaw** – Assistant Headteacher (Raising Attainment)

ST MARTINS SCHOOL

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Together, the leadership team remains committed to ensuring that every child receives the highest quality education, care and support.

September Return to School

Please note that **there will be no phased return in September.**

All pupils return to school on Wednesday 2 September.

- **Secondary pupils** should be on site by **8.30am at the latest.**
- **Primary pupils** should arrive by **8.45am** for an **8.55am start.**

We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning the year positively from day one.

Mobile Phones

A reminder that details of our updated mobile phone procedures were issued to families last week.

Please ensure you complete the **Microsoft Forms response** [Mobile Phone Declaration for Students \(September 2026\) – Fill out form](#)

(if your child will be bringing a mobile phone to school from September and is in Year 6 and up).

Where permission has been granted for a pupil to bring a mobile phone to school, it **must be handed in immediately on arrival each morning in line with school procedures.** Any pupil found with a mobile phone that has not been handed in will be issued with a sanction in accordance with our behaviour policy.

For pupils in **Reception to Year 5**, mobile phones are **not permitted in school under any circumstances.**

We ask all families to support us with this expectation. Please refer to the letter issued last week for full details of the school's mobile phone arrangements and expectations.

Uniform Expectations

A reminder that our uniform expectations remain **unchanged.**

Please ensure that pupils return in full and correct uniform. Particular attention should be paid to the following:

- Only **one item of jewellery** may be worn.
- **No facial piercings** are permitted.
- **Leggings are not permitted under any circumstances.**
- Pupils must wear **plain black school shoes or plain black trainers.**
- Full details can be found on the uniform page of the [school website.](#)

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On the first day back, all pupils will line up with their tutors on the playground before entering the building. A **formal uniform check** will take place before students move to registration.

Any inappropriate jewellery will be confiscated, and sanctions will be issued where uniform expectations have not been met.

The overwhelming majority of our pupils wear their uniform well and take pride in representing the school. Unfortunately, this year a small number of pupils have repeatedly failed to meet expectations despite communication with home. As a school, we will be **starting as we mean to go on** in September, and we ask all families to support us by ensuring pupils arrive ready to meet expectations from the very first day.

Behaviour Expectations

Alongside uniform, we ask parents and carers to remind children of our behaviour expectations before they return in September.

We want every pupil to start the new academic year ready to learn, respectful towards others and committed to demonstrating our STM values. This includes following expectations relating to behaviour, attendance, uniform, mobile phones and respectful conduct towards others. High standards help create a calm, safe and productive environment where everyone can succeed.

Improving Our School Environment

We are delighted that work on our school rebuild project continues to make excellent progress.

Current timelines indicate:

- The main rebuild project should be completed by **the end of September**.
- A refurbished **hall and dining facility** will be available as part of the completed project.
- Brand-new **toilet facilities** are expected to be completed by **October half term**.

In addition, significant internal renovation work will take place during the summer holiday. Both primary and secondary corridor spaces will be refreshed and improved, helping to create a brighter, more welcoming environment that reflects our new STM values and gives pupils an even greater sense of pride in their school.

Finally, thank you once again for your support throughout this year. It has been a year of significant progress and positive change, and we are excited about the opportunities ahead.

On behalf of all staff and governors, I wish our pupils and families a safe, enjoyable and restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Wednesday 2 September** and continuing our journey together as a school community that is **Safe, Thoughtful and Motivated**.

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Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads 'Al Pope'.

Ms Alison Pope
Headteacher

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