



21st September 2022

Dear Parents & Carers

As we are now a couple of weeks into the new academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to share some key information about our achievements, forthcoming events and opportunities to become more involved in the work of our school.

### **The Best Outcomes of Any School in King's Lynn and West Norfolk!**

We are incredibly proud of the success our students achieved in their Summer 2022 examinations, especially after the disruption caused by COVID to so many. Nearly 65% of our students achieved a grade 9 to 4 in English and Maths.

The vast majority of our students achieved their target grades, resulting in a successful transition through to the next stage of their education.

The Department for Education measures school success by looking at how much progress they add to the GCSE outcomes of students i.e. from a student's starting point when they begin their secondary education to how far they progress academically by the time they complete their GCSEs. This is a key performance indicator for a school.

I am delighted to advise you that early indications are that Marshland High School is likely to be placed within the **top 10% of schools nationally for academic progress**. This is a testament to the excellent teaching, care and guidance that Marshland students receive.

In addition, I am also delighted to share that Marshland has also done exceptionally well within another key performance indicator, the 'Average 8 Attainment' score. This averages the 8 highest GCSE grades a student achieves. Marshland was successful in getting the highest Average 8 Attainment score of any school in King's Lynn and West Norfolk. This means Marshland is both the highest achieving school for progress and attainment within the region.

### **Year 5 and 6 Open Evening – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – doors open at 4.45pm**

A reminder to all parents that it is our annual Open evening tomorrow, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. We look forward to welcoming family and friends with children in primary Year 5 and Year 6.

There are lots of interactive activities for everyone, a chance to sample school food, tours led by our students, alongside plenty of opportunities to talk to our staff about the teaching, extra-curricular opportunities, care and support we provide.

### **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

We are rightly proud of the academic success achieved by our students. Our dedicated team of staff provide the highest quality teaching and learning opportunities. However, academic success is not the only important outcome a school seeks to achieve. We also have a responsibility to nurture, care and guide our students through their secondary schooling.

Sadly, an increasing number of young people across the UK are experiencing anxiety, mental health and emotional difficulties during their secondary school years. It is a disgrace that so many of our young people have either ineffective or no access to high-quality mental health support.

In order to address this challenge, I am delighted to announce we have appointed a fully qualified counsellor to work full-time starting during October. With responsibility for supporting students



experiencing difficulties with mental health and wellbeing, they will work alongside parents and families to ensure our pupils access care and support when they need it most.

### **Satchel One** (formerly known as Show My Homework)

All students now have access to Satchel One to enable them to see homework set by their teachers. To log-in students must first log into their school Gmail account, then in a new tab open Satchel One. Students then only need to click the 'Sign in with Google' button. Parents can view set homework using a pin (password). Sheets with the pin have already been sent home with students, but a replacement can also be requested through the student's Pastoral Manager.

### **Parents Forum**

Meeting three times per year in November, March and June, the aim of our Parents Forum is to work supportively to provide the senior leadership team with invaluable feedback and parental insight on our school's work as a whole. If any parent is interested in joining this forum, please email Mr Duce [t.duce@marshlandhigh.co.uk](mailto:t.duce@marshlandhigh.co.uk). Please note this group is not used to raise issues relating to individual children.

### **Parent Governors**

We are currently looking to appoint a Parent Governor to our Local Governing Body. If you are interested in supporting our school in this role can I please, in the first instance, invite you to send in an expression of interest by email to [head@marshlandhigh.co.uk](mailto:head@marshlandhigh.co.uk). We will then arrange for those who have expressed an interest to meet with me individually to discuss the role, responsibilities and process.

### **Appeal for Second-Hand Uniform**

We would like to set up an outlet to provide parents with access to used blazers, trousers and skirts and are appealing to families to send in any items that are in good condition, but are no longer needed by your child. Any donated items will be cleaned to be reused by families that would benefit from this service. Donated items can be dropped off at the school reception and once we receive sufficient stock, we will be in contact with further details on how to access.

### **Attendance**

Once again, this year we are introducing further strategies to help good attendance. Over the coming months, Mr Duce, Deputy Headteacher will be asking for your support and highlighting what actions we may have to take if attendance does not meet the required levels.

### **Bicycle Safety**

As a reminder, if your child cycles to Marshland, please ensure they are wearing a bicycle helmet, and with darker morning and evenings, that they have working lights and they are clearly visible to traffic and pedestrians via items like a highly reflective jacket or strap.

### **Twitter**

You can keep up to date with the latest news by subscribing to our Twitter account - **@MarshlandHS** where we share what is happening in school, alongside helpful tips and events for families.

We look forward to a busy, productive and enjoyable year ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr Craig Jansen  
Headteacher, Marshland High School