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**Principal:** Jennifer Giovanelli

19<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Dear all

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

### **Attendance**

Attendance continues to be some of the highest we have seen this academic year. Thank you again for your continued support—**we know it is not always easy for some children to attend**, and we want to reiterate our support for you and your children.

- **Mrs Murias**, our Education Welfare Officer, has a wealth of experience and is always happy to chat with any parent or child where attendance may be a barrier. Together, we can explore ways to help.
- **Ms Sithole** is also available to support children where anxiety may be preventing attendance.

If you would like to discuss any concerns about attendance, please don't hesitate to reach out.

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### **Parents' Evening Success**

Last Thursday's **Year 12 and 13 Parents' Evening was very well attended**, with a fantastic turnout. Lots of useful advice was shared, particularly around:

- Study techniques for effective revision.
- Supporting our Year 13 students to make the most of their final few months in preparation for summer exams.

📞 **Please don't feel you have to wait if you have concerns.** We would much rather hear sooner rather than later if you are worried or have a question about your child's academic performance.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you're worried about:

- How your child is performing in a specific subject.
- Their ability to keep up with homework or assignments.
- Study techniques or strategies they can use to prepare for exams.

Your child's class teacher, or our Heads of Department will be more than happy to help. They can provide personalised advice, identify areas for support, and work with you to ensure your child feels confident in their learning.

✉ **Contact: If you're unsure who to reach out to, email**

[lindsay.Rayment@ketteringscienceacademy.org](mailto:lindsay.Rayment@ketteringscienceacademy.org), and we'll ensure your query goes to the right place as quickly as possible.

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## Year 11 and Year 13 Exam Preparation

We have seen a real step up this week in the focus of our **Year 11 students**, with excellent attendance at after-school revision sessions.

### Class of 2025:

- Tutors have been working with Year 11s to explore **key revision techniques** that are proven to be highly effective.
- These techniques are modelled by tutors, and students have had the opportunity to practise and apply them independently.
- A Year 11 Study Hub is now live on Teams, providing targeted revision materials, such as past papers, revision guides, and recorded lessons for all subjects.

### For parents of Year 11 and Year 13 students:

- Please contact **Miss Davies** or **Mr Reid** if you would like updates or further information about what we are doing to support children preparing for their exams.
- We also encourage parents to ask their children about what they've been practising at school and explore ways to support revision at home.

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## How Late Is Late?

Punctuality is a crucial aspect of our school culture, and we are proud that the vast majority of our students arrive to lessons on time every day.

### Why punctuality matters:

- Striving for excellence in punctuality is a shared goal for all students and staff.
- Being on time helps lessons start smoothly and ensures students maximise their learning opportunities.

We recognise that moving across the site can sometimes be challenging, particularly for students transitioning between distant classrooms. To support this, the **warning bell** rings at the end of break and lunch to help students know when it's time to begin moving promptly to their next lesson.

As part of our ongoing efforts to **strengthen consistency and reinforce high expectations**, we are refining how lateness is tracked and addressed:

- Teachers will now **record the number of minutes late** in lesson registers, providing more detailed tracking of punctuality.
- Behaviour incidents related to lateness will continue to be logged where appropriate, helping us **identify patterns and address recurring challenges** effectively.

We understand that there may occasionally be valid reasons for lateness, and staff will continue to use professional judgement while maintaining high standards.

### Next Steps:

We will regularly review the impact of these refinements and share updates with parents on our progress toward ensuring all students are consistently punctual.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us foster a culture of responsibility and excellence in punctuality.

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## Committed to Learning and Listening

As a learning organisation, we recognise that we don't always get it right. Over the past week, we have spent time with parents and conducted several **lessons learned reviews**.

We want to reassure you that:

- **I am always happy to meet parents in person.** Due to diary commitments, appointments are the best way to ensure that we can meet at a convenient time. Please contact [lindsay.rayment@ketteringscienceacademy.org](mailto:lindsay.rayment@ketteringscienceacademy.org).
- **Given the size and complexity of our organisation, I may not always be the best person to address specific concerns directly.** However, I ensure I am kept fully updated on all parental feedback—both positive and negative—and I work closely with my senior team to ensure every concern is addressed appropriately.
- For urgent matters, we have a **senior member of staff on call throughout the day** to provide timely support. While we encourage parents to make appointments where possible, we understand that immediate issues may arise, and we are committed to responding as quickly as possible.
- Feedback is reviewed each half term to identify trends and patterns, helping us **address any issues proactively**.

Insights from this feedback are already helping us improve processes like attendance support, punctuality tracking, and communication with parents.

In short: **please let us know what you're thinking. We want to help.**

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Thank you again for your continued partnership. We have a number of events coming up this half term, please see attached for more details. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback, please get in touch.

**Mrs Giovanelli**