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2nd July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well and that your child is looking forward to a well-deserved break over the summer.

At the heart of everything we do — both here at school and across Ormiston Academies Trust — is a shared commitment to providing every student with the very best education. As part of this commitment, we are excited to be introducing a new, Trust-wide curriculum that reflects the highest standards and is designed to support excellent teaching in every classroom.

To ensure this important development is implemented successfully, we will be increasing the number of INSET (staff training) days to a maximum of **eight** for the **2025/2026 academic year**. This one-year change will provide staff with the dedicated time they need to plan, collaborate and prepare outstanding learning experiences for all students.

We understand the importance of balancing staff development with family routines, and this decision has been made with careful consideration. The additional INSET days will directly support improvements in teaching and learning — changes we believe will make a lasting and positive difference to your child's education.

As you may know, INSET days are a required part of the school year and must take place during term time, in line with guidance from the Department for Education. As an academy trust, we have flexibility in setting our school calendar, and many trusts across the country allocate up to 10 INSET days annually. By introducing eight, we believe we are striking a thoughtful balance.

As part of this, I'd like to inform you of **three additional INSET days** that will take place during the **2025/2026 academic year**.

These days will be used to deliver high-quality professional development for our middle leaders — including subject leads — who play a key role in shaping the teaching and learning that happens every day in your child's classroom. These days are in addition to our five allocated INSET Days.











Please see below for all INSET dates:

- Monday 1st September 2025
- Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Friday 17th October 2025 OAT Additional
- Friday 5th December 2025 OAT Additional
- Monday 23rd February 2026 OAT Additional
- Monday 29th June 2026
- Monday 20th July 2026

We are sharing these dates now to give you as much notice as possible and to support your planning.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and understanding.

Warm regards,

Leigh Moore Principal Myk Wagstaff Vice Principal