



8th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7 Students

A Fantastic Start to Life at Iceni Academy

I wanted to take this opportunity to share how incredibly proud we are of our new Year 7 students following their first few days at Iceni Academy and our Big School Transition Camp.

From the moment they arrived, students have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, positivity and maturity. They have thrown themselves into new experiences, met new people and begun building the friendships and confidence that will help them thrive throughout their secondary school journey. I am sure many of you will already have heard plenty of stories about their experiences at home.

I was particularly impressed by the resilience shown by those students who stayed overnight. Despite waking to torrential rain on Friday morning, they approached the challenge with smiles, determination and outstanding teamwork. They supported one another, adapted brilliantly to the conditions and demonstrated the kind of character that makes us so proud to have them as part of our school community.

Throughout the two-day camp, students shared many positive reflections, including:

"It has been the best time ever at school."

"I was really nervous to begin with, but I have made lots of new friends."

"Fantastic."

"Such fun."

"I have made new friends."

These comments capture exactly what we hoped to achieve through the programme: helping students feel confident, connected and excited about the next stage of their education.

The impact of the camp was also recognised by the Chief Instructor from The Big School Camps, who commented:

"I am so impressed with how much the students have grown over the last two days and how they are now one team, working well together. I can understand why you chose to do this during the first two days."





This praise reflects the tremendous progress our students made in such a short space of time. They demonstrated excellent communication, teamwork and resilience throughout, while embodying our core Iceni Academy values of **Aim High, Work Hard and Be Kind**.

I would like to offer a huge congratulations to every Year 7 student. Starting secondary school is a significant milestone, and they have approached it with courage, positivity and determination. They should all be incredibly proud of themselves.

I would also like to thank you, our parents and carers, for your support throughout the transition process. The success of this programme is only possible through the strong partnership between home and school, and we are grateful for the trust and encouragement you have shown throughout your child's transition to Iceni Academy.

Personally, it has been an absolute privilege to lead this year's transition programme and to work with both students and families as they have made the move from primary to secondary education. Watching our newest students grow in confidence and form new friendships has been immensely rewarding.

As the transition phase now comes to a close, I am delighted to hand over responsibility for Year 7 to the team who will continue to support and guide them throughout their journey at Iceni Academy. They are in excellent hands.

Year 7 Support Team

Mr Meneghello - Key Stage 3 Leader Matt.Meneghello@attrust.org.uk

Mrs Hobbs - Student Support Officer Rachel.Hobbs@attrust.org.uk

Mr Rice – Tutor Nathan.Rice@attrust.org.uk

Ms Jacobsz – Tutor Carmen.Jacobsz@attrust.org.uk

Ms Horn-Castle – Tutor Claire.Hoar@attrust.org.uk

Ms Puddy – Tutor Abigail.Puddy@attrust.org.uk

Thank you once again for your support and for entrusting us with your child's education. We are excited to see what this wonderful year group will achieve over the coming years and look forward to watching them continue to flourish as members of the Iceni Academy community.

Kind regards

Mr Morris

Vice Principal

Iceni Academy

