



St. Ninian's HIGH SCHOOL

Scoill Ard Noo Ninian

Our Ref: CJC/SM/

14th September 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

As we have recently embarked on the new academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome back to all our students and their families, with a special welcome to those joining the St. Ninian's High School community for the first time. I am pleased to report that our new Year 7 cohort have settled in extremely well over these first few days and it is wonderful to see so many of our Year 11 students taking up their place in our Sixth Form, joined also by a number of students from other schools also choosing to continue their education by enrolling in our Sixth Form.

Summer Exam Success

Before looking to the year ahead, it is important to acknowledge the exceptional achievements of our students in this summer's examinations. Our results were outstanding, with some of our best GCSE outcomes to date. The majority of our students achieved the key benchmark for Level 3 study of 5 GCSEs at grades A*-C, including English and Maths and our results were well above the island average for all secondary schools.

Our A-Level results were equally excellent, with almost half of entries achieving grades A*-B. All of our leavers secured the results needed to progress to their chosen next steps in higher education, apprenticeships, or employment. We are exceptionally proud of all our students and the dedication they have demonstrated throughout their time in school, and wish them well in the future.

Welcome to new colleagues

We are also delighted to welcome several new teachers to the St Ninian's team this term:

- Ms Dawson – Science
- Miss Hesketh-Jones – Science
- Miss Cranston – English
- Mr Middleton – PE
- Mr Boussougou – PE

They have already made a fantastic start, and we look forward to the energy and expertise they bring to our school.

Priorities for this year

As we look ahead to the coming year, our priorities remain clear and rooted to our core values of Respect, Aspiration and Empowerment. We will continue to focus on:

Continued...

Live to Learn
Learn to Live

LOWER SCHOOL (Years 7 – 9)

Heywood Avenue, Onchan

Isle of Man, IM3 3AR

+44 (0) 1624 648900

UPPER SCHOOL (Years 10 – 13)

Ballaquayle Road, Douglas

Isle of Man, IM2 5RA

+44 (0) 1624 648800

HEAD TEACHER Mr C. J. Coole

- **Attendance and Punctuality:** School attendance remains one of the strongest indicators of student success. Every lesson counts, and strong attendance habits play a vital role in both academic achievement and overall wellbeing. We want every student to do all they can to maximise their attendance and to strive for at least 95% attendance over the academic year if possible. Can I take this opportunity to ask all parents and carers to play their part in this by doing all you can to ensure our students attend school every day and arrive punctually, fully equipped and ready to learn. Can I also remind you that requests for term time leaves of absence will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances and students should not take or extend holidays into term time.
- **Teaching & Learning:** Ensuring high-quality learning experiences for all students is our primary focus. This year, we are continuing to focus on ensuring a consistency in the quality of teaching and learning experiences across all subjects in the school, including the structure of lessons in school and within all TEAMS classrooms online. We ask all parents and carers to support us in this by ensuring students also adopt positive habits to learning when at home too.
- **Inclusion:** We are very proud of our strong record on being an inclusive school and this year we will continue to do all we can to meet the needs of all of our students, giving each and every one of them the best possible chance to succeed in their education.

Parent Consultation Session and other key events:

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you of the dates of the Parent Consultation Sessions that take place this year. As well as written reports these are an important opportunity to for parents and carers to have some time with the teachers and I would urge you to 'save the date' that is relevant to you and encourage you to come on the evening. You will be sent a letter closer to the date with details of how to book in a consultation, but I felt it would be helpful to share the dates with you now.

- Year 7: Tues 27th April 2027
- Year 8: Tues 20th April 2027
- Year 9: Tues 13th October 2026
- Year 10: Tues 17th November 2026
- Year 11: Tues 26th January 2027
- Year 12: Tues 8th December 2026
- Year 13: Tues 12th January 2027

Other key events in the school year include:

- Year 9 Options for KS4 Evening: 2nd March 2027
- Sixth Form Open Evening: Tues 2nd February 2027

Lower School pick up & drop offs

As it can get quite congested at these times can I encourage parents to let their child walk to school or take one of the provided school buses if at all possible. If you do still choose to drop off and pick up your child in your car, please only stop in the pick/up drop off lane to the left of the main school drive and do not park in the main staff car park or in the bus lanes. Also, if you can, please try and arrive a little later to the school as the initial congestion will have eased after 3.15pm. Can I also ask that parents to not use Lhon Dhoo Close as a pick up/drop off location as this does impact on our neighbours who live in that community.

Here at St. Ninian's we are all fully committed to helping each young person thrive academically, socially, and personally. We can only fully do that with your help - strong partnerships between home and school are essential to achieving this, and I thank you for your continued trust and support as we embark on another successful year together.

Yours faithfully



Mr C J Coole PGCE, NPQH
Head Teacher

