La Sainte Union Catholic School

Family Bulletin

8th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back!

The new academic year has started with great enthusiasm from our school community, and we are excited for the year ahead.

Our new Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts have settled well and are demonstrating a superb sense of resilience and aspiration. We are confident that they will be an asset to our school community, and we are enjoying getting to know them as they embark on their bold futures.

Our departing cohorts have excelled again in our broad curriculum demonstrating the breadth and depth of their talents. It was a real pleasure to share their results day with them, and we wish them well with all future endeavours. See Page 2 for more details

This week, we welcomed the Autism Education Trust who led a three-hour training session for our staff team titled Making Sense of Autism in Schools which focused on ways in which we can enhance the experience of our students with autism. The strategies discussed will no doubt promote a heightened sense of awareness and well-being for all our students, and staff are looking forward to adopting these over the coming days and weeks. In addition, work is being completed on our new SEN department, and we look forward to sharing more information regarding this soon.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support to date, and we look forward to working in partnership with you this academic year.

Best wishes,

Miss Ridge

Important Dates

Friday 12th September- Year 7 & Year 10 School Pictures

PHSE Topics

Year 7 - Starting in secondary school

Year 8 - Introduction to relationships

Year 9 - Dealing with change in life

Year 10 - Marriage and civil partnerships

Year 11 - Transition to more responsibility

Contact form for any PSHE related queries:
https://forms.office.com/e/GY4SBrwbNW

Latest editions of the LaSWAP newsletter can be found here: LaSWAP Sixth Form Consortium - Newsletters

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Welcome Year 7!

Last week we welcomed our new Year 7 cohort to our school community!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new students and their families.

It's been a fantastic first week filled with energy, enthusiasm, and plenty of new experiences. From getting to know new classmates and teachers to finding their way around the school, they have made a wonderful start to this next chapter in their learning journey. We have been so impressed with the positive attitude, curiosity, and kindness shown by our Year 7s already.

Transitioning to secondary school is a big step, and we want to reassure you that we are here to support every student every step of the way — academically, socially, and emotionally. This is just the beginning of an exciting journey, and we look forward to seeing our students grow in confidence and thrive in their learning.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support during this important time. We are looking forward to a great year of learning, collaboration, and community.

Exam Success

We are delighted to announce another year of excellent GCSE, BTEC and A Level results, reflecting our continued commitment to nurturing bright women. This year's exam results reflect our sustained success which keep La Sainte Union School placed among the top schools in Camden, with students achieving an incredible 199 grades 9 to 7 at GCSE.

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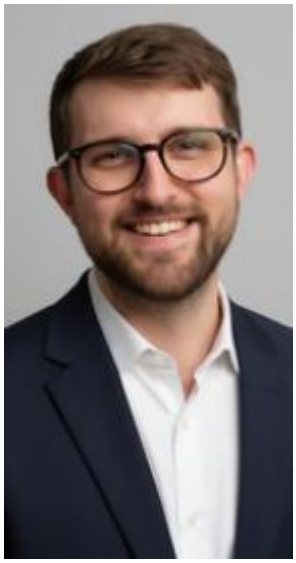
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Message from Mr Hooper (Head of Year 12)



I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to introduce myself as the new Head of Year 12 at La Sainte Union.
I have been a member of the La Sainte Union community since 2018, during which time I have worked as a Head of Year across Key Stages 3 and 4 for five years. In addition, I have served as Lead Practitioner for Inclusive Education and am proud to be a member of the school's safeguarding team. These experiences have deepened my commitment to supporting all students to thrive both academically and personally.
As we begin this important stage of your child's education, I want to assure you that my priority at the start of this academic year will be to ensure that every student feels settled, supported and ready to learn. Year 12 represents a big step with new challenges and expectations and our goal is to provide clear guidance and pastoral care to help students adjust confidently to their post-16 studies.
We will focus on building positive relationships and developing effective study habits so that each student can make the most of the opportunities available. I will work closely with our dedicated sixth form team and subject teachers to ensure that any concerns are addressed early and that all students receive the individual support they need.
Communication with parents and carers will be central to this approach. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns, or if there is any information you feel would help us better support your child. I look forward to working in partnership with you to make Year 12 a successful and rewarding year for everyone.
I look forward to working collaboratively with parents to support our Year 12's.

Attendance

La Sainte Union seeks to ensure excellent school attendance and punctuality so that pupils can achieve and realise their potential and have full opportunities to be involved in all aspects of school life.

We appreciate that your daughter may be unwell from time to time and that there can be exceptional circumstances for absence, but we urge you to think carefully about keeping your child out of school.

There is a strong connection between poor attendance and underachievement. Please see our Policies page for the Attendance Policy.

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Reporting your child's absence

If your child is unable to attend school, you must inform the school **before 8.30 am on the first day and every day thereafter of the absence.** If you do not inform the school, this may result in an unauthorised absence and is placed on your child's record. If you are unable to inform the school, you must provide a note with the reason for the absence on your child's return. For every day that your child is absent, you will receive a text informing you of their absence, unless we know otherwise.

Parents and guardians please email absence/early departures to attendance@lsu.camden.sch.uk or telephone 0207 428 4600 press option 1 and please include in your message: the pupil's full name, the pupil's form year and class and the reason for absence.

All requests for exceptional leave must be made in advance to Miss Ridge.

Holidays in term time cannot be authorised. Individual requests for time off school for exceptional circumstances are considered on a case-by-case basis, in line with the guidance from the Department of Education. Requests for authorisation cannot be considered in retrospect.

Early departure

All appointments for the doctor, hospital, orthodontist or dentist, must be made out of term time or after school. If it is local, your child may be able to leave and then return to school. Your child must bring a note on the day of any appointments and report to reception **before 8.30 am** with proof of their appointment unless we have received an email from a parent/guardian.

They must deposit their phone in the early departure box, ready for collection when they sign out and leave the premises. Without a note or proof, your child will not be allowed to leave school premises until we have made contact with the parent or guardian.

Medical appointments before school

If your child has a medical appointment before school and arrives late, they must show proof of their appointment on arrival. If they have no proof, we may contact the parent/guardian to confirm. No proof results in an unauthorised absence.

What happens if your child is absent from school?

If your daughter is absent from school you will receive an absence text by 10.30am, unless you have already informed us that she will be absent. This is to ensure that you are aware that she has not arrived at school.

If your daughter's attendance drops below 95% you may receive a letter of concern and we will ask you to contact the school to discuss your daughter's attendance.

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

If your daughter's attendance drops below 90% you may receive a further letter. It is likely that you daughter's absence will be referred to the PAS (Pupil Attendance Service) and there may be statutory action taken.

What happens if your child is persistently late for school?

The school day starts at **8.30 am** and registers remain open until 9.00 am. If your daughter arrives between 8.35 am and 9.05 am, she will be marked late in the register (L). If she arrives after 9.00 am, without an appropriate reason, she will be recorded as an unauthorised absence (U). If your daughter is recorded as L or U eight times or more over a period of eight weeks, she will be referred to the PAS (Pupil Attendance Service and you may receive a fine. We want to work with you and your daughter to ensure optimum attendance and will do whatever we can to offer support where it is needed.

We are able to refer you to a number of school and external support services that may be able to help.

Please contact attendance@lsu.camden.sch.uk , if you have concerns regarding your daughter's attendance or want to discuss your particular situation.

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CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Community News

La Sainte Union
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Report card for La Sainte Union can be accessed here:

https://camden.schoolreport.org.uk/school/index.html?schoolId=2025401

Alternatively, you can scan this QR code with your phone's camera:

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