

25 May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

After a long winter, summer finally appears and students have been adapting to warmer temperatures whilst dealing with the examination season. Thank you to all our families for their support during the challenging situation where we had a sewage leak in the Academy and had to close for a day due to Health and Safety requirements. The situation is now completely resolved and we are grateful to our sponsor Wythenshawe Community Housing Group for their support in deep cleaning the affected area of the Academy.

After seven fantastic years, I will be leaving MEA at the end of the summer. It has been an amazing journey – from one of the most challenging schools in the country to a school recognised nationally as a centre of excellence. We have become one of the most popular schools in Manchester and this year opened our £11.6 million campus extension. I have loved my time at the Academy and been amazed by the loyal support of the Wythenshawe community, especially last year when my family was affected by the Arena attack. The support of our families, especially in my early years when we were improving the Academy, has been amazing and your partnership is one of the key factors in our successful transformation.

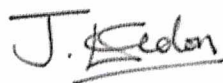
The team who have worked with me to drive the success of MEA are superb and will be leading the Academy into our next phase of development. Mr Bell, who has been the Senior Vice Principal working closely with me for the past seven years, will become the Interim Trust CEO and Principal of MEA and he will be ably supported by Ms McClaren and Ms Jarvis as Vice Principals. This team are superb and have been key to the success of our journey – the Academy is in excellent hands and will continue to grow and thrive under their leadership. Our amazing business sponsors, Wythenshawe Community Housing Group, Manchester Airport Group, Lloyds Bank and Accenture, continue to drive forward our ambition to prepare all our students for the employment market of the future and they will continue to be passionate supporters of MEA.

As always at MEA we are looking to the future and have exciting developments taking place over the summer – including the development of two new courses for students – Photography and Hair and Beauty. We have finished the consultation over the new school day, thank you to all who responded, and we will be trialling the new arrangements in the final month of this term to make sure it works effectively for September. There are numerous Y11 Exam Booster sessions taking place over the half term holiday and when we return there are still several weeks of GCSE examinations ahead. Y9 and Y10 should be revising for the crucial end of year Big Tests which will help inform the predicted Y11 grades we share with colleges during the Autumn Term.

MEA opens for the second half of the Summer Term on Monday 4th June at the usual time. I hope that over the course of my final half-term I will be able to say goodbye to many of you in person and say thank you for your support. It will be an emotional time for me but MEA's future is incredibly exciting and our ambition to deliver a 'fantastic future for all' our students continues to drive our determination to be a school all our students are proud of.

Have a great half-term, thanks again for all you do for MEA,

Best wishes



Mr. J. Eldon
Principal MEA
CEO Altius Trust

