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September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

I am pleased to see that the students have returned fully equipped and with a positive attitude. I would like to thank you for taking so much care in preparing your children for the new term.

All years in a student's school life are important, but you will be aware that Year 9 is particularly pivotal. For the first time, our students will be able to make their own decisions about the mix of subjects that they will study. The KS4 courses mostly begin in Year 10, and options are selected later in Year 9, with the exception of PER, which begins in Year 9, and the external final exam is completed in Year 10. It's vitally important that they take every opportunity to inform themselves about the choices available.

I encourage you to note the dates of Information Evenings and Student Progress Evenings which will form part of this process. All of the key dates for the year can be found on the school calendar using the following link:

<https://www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk/calendar/>

Please note that Friday 9th October is a late start for students. They need to be onsite for 9:15am and go straight to period 1.

It is also important that the students understand the necessity for trying their hardest in all subjects until the end of the year, as KS4 subjects build on knowledge gained in Years 7 – 9.

As always, the tutors and I will be encouraging students to make the most of every opportunity available. Please encourage your child to become involved in as many of our co-curricular activities as possible, to widen their experiences and help support the development of new skills. Students have the opportunity to become involved in school life, including volunteering to be a Form Rep, Charity Rep, Sports Captain, or become part of our School Council. I hope that the Year 9 students will apply for some of these roles, which are a very important aspect of our Student Voice. Involvement in such activities gives them opportunities to show their abilities as leaders and innovators, and their willingness to work as part of a team. These are all qualities that are invaluable as they approach the world of work.

This year we will continue to run our Edgpoints rewards scheme and are using our online shop for students to purchase their rewards. Students will be able to use ClassCharts to spend some of their Edgpoints.

Please note all the school information regarding homework, absence reporting, uniform and mobile phone rules, etc can be found on the school website – www.edgbarrowschool.co.uk.

I look forward to working with you and your child in the forthcoming months as they continue their career with us. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully

Sam Pedder
Head of Year 9