

27 March 2026

Dear Parents,

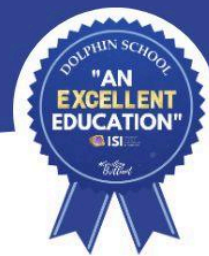
As Chair of Governors, I am writing to share important updates about our school community and to outline our approach to school fees for the forthcoming academic year.

This has been an exceptional year for Dolphin School, marked by outstanding achievements and continued development across all areas of school life. Most notably, our Year 6 pupils have achieved remarkable 11+ results, securing 21 scholarships and awards across academic, sport, music and drama disciplines. These successes reflect not only the talents of our pupils, but also the strength and breadth of the education we provide.

We were also delighted to receive an excellent inspection outcome, which recognised the many strengths of the school. The report highlights the warm, nurturing ethos of Dolphin, the strong relationships between staff and pupils, and the high levels of engagement and enthusiasm for learning seen throughout the school. Inspectors particularly noted pupils' confidence, excellent behaviour, and the school's commitment to developing the whole child.

Over the past year, we have continued to invest in and enrich the experience we offer our pupils and families. Key developments include:

- A rich programme of trips and residentials, including the introduction of termly Forest School experiences for our EYFS pupils
- The launch of an Eco Committee, empowering pupils to take responsibility for sustainability initiatives
- Increased opportunities for pupil voice, leadership, and autonomy, including expanded captancy roles and pupil-led projects
- Continued expansion of our extra-curricular provision, with a wide range of free and low-cost clubs available to all pupils
- Introduction of integrated digital systems to streamline payments, clubs, trips and communication (including first aid notifications), improving transparency and reducing reliance on paper
- Ongoing commitment to local and global charitable work, encouraging pupils to look outward and develop as responsible, compassionate citizens
- A strong focus on staff wellbeing, ensuring our team is supported and able to deliver the very best for our pupils
- A continued programme of external speakers for both parents and pupils, providing expert guidance on a range of relevant and important topics
- Planned decorating and refurbishment projects to further enhance the school environment



Dolphin has always sought to maintain competitive fees while delivering a high-quality, well-rounded education. Our dedicated staff remain our greatest asset, and it is essential that we continue to invest in recruiting and retaining excellent teachers and support staff.

For the academic year 2026/27:

- Nursery termly fees: £3,113
- Key Stage 1 termly fees: £6,052 (+VAT)
- Key Stage 2 termly fees: £6,635 (+VAT)

We remain very competitive on fees when compared with other local independent schools. As a charitable institution, we are committed to minimising the impact of fee increases wherever possible. We continue to seek external support for our bursary provision and remain dedicated to offering financial assistance to families where we can.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support and trust in Dolphin School. Our guiding belief remains that happy children learn, and we are committed to providing an environment in which every child can thrive, achieve and grow in confidence.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss any aspect of this letter, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Petronella van der Vliet  
Chair of Governors