



Glenwood School

Headteacher: Amanda Lambert

Rushbottom Lane, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 4LW. Tel 01268 792575

Email: admin@glenwood.essex.sch.uk

22nd May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this term comes to an end, I wanted to write to you all.

It's been a pleasure getting to know the students, staff and the whole school community this half term. I personally have been made to feel very welcome, and I am excited for all the positive changes we are going to make so that the young people at Glenwood can achieve.

The students have settled well back into school life, and we are already beginning to implement our new Equals curriculum. We have been working on all learners' characteristics and looking at how we teach students in accordance to pathways. After the half term we will be looking at specialist teaching strategies based on research and what successful learning looks like in classrooms.

In the summer term we will share with you more about what this will look like, through parent evenings and also coffee mornings.

Coffee mornings have been a great opportunity to meet with some of you, and we have gained a lot of information from you about current success and ideas of what we could introduce. The Parent-teacher association (Friends of Glenwood) is now becoming a larger group, and I would encourage anyone to join. I wanted to thank all the parents who have given up their time to support with this.

Thank you for your input into the recent survey relating to home-school communication. The consensus was that there was strong support for digital communication.

Suggestions included:

- One single communication platform instead of multiple systems
- More regular photo updates
- Notifications/alerts for new messages
- Faster updates through apps or SMS
- Moving away from paper communication books where possible

Parents appreciated:

- Photos
- “Wow moments”
- Positive comments
- Teacher emails and phone calls

Several parents highlighted that:

- Frequent staff changes increase anxiety for children
- Communication around teacher changes and transitions needs improvement
- Earlier preparation and clearer communication would help families support children emotionally

With this in mind, we are now currently exploring a programme which will incorporate progress tracking for learning, phonics and reading, learning observations through photos and videos and home school communication app. The plan will be to implement this in the Autumn term.

After the half term we will be busy looking at class groups for September and these will be communicated to you before the summer break. This is a big task as we need to consider, classes staffing and we have new cohorts of learners starting with us in September.

The new post 16 building is on schedule, and the building is an amazing space. It would be great to give parents and carers a tour of the building when it is ready.

Communication with families is still a key priority for me. I know there is a school community online, which is a great way to communicate and share with each other. Please however, do come and have a chat, if there were anything you would like to raise as it is essential that the school and families work together.

Thank you for your continued support, wishing you all a restful break.

Yours sincerely,

Amanda Lambert
Headteacher

