



*A greeting to new students from the Principal  
January 2011*

Welcome to a chilly London. I hope that the warmth of your reception at Alfred the Great College will make up for the awfulness of our weather! It is no coincidence that the English travelled the four corners of the globe in search of the sun.

For many of you, it will be your first visit to this exciting city and I hope that during your time with us you will take advantage of living and studying in our two thousand year old, 21<sup>st</sup> century capital. This seeming contradiction lies at the heart of London's unique appeal. Its depth of ancient culture marches with a cutting-edge modernity that is the envy of many other metropolitan areas worldwide.

Education is so much more than the accumulation of information; it is the use and insight with which we take advantage of that information that is the true measure of our success and the creativity achieved through learning.

Examination and academic achievement are of course indispensable factors in the educational journey, but they are not the sole yardstick of its benefits or our progress thereon.

I have spoken of your educational journey but I hope that during your time in London you will also make a cultural and spiritual journey in a city that is home to The Victoria and Albert Museum and other innumerable museums of the first rank, Drama in Theatreland along Shaftesbury Avenue, concert halls without number and the major attractions of Madame Tussauds and Buckingham Palace. Before I begin to sound like a guidebook, suffice it to say there is something for everyone in London whether your tastes are traditional or up to the minute.

A regular feature of life at Alfred the Great College are extra-curricular trips around London and I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to be guided by experts around the many places of interest.

I hope that you will find your time at Alfred the Great College to be worthwhile and productive. It is my job to make sure that the college runs smoothly and provide you with an environment that will facilitate your scholastic endeavours.

My door is always open, so if you have problems to discuss, suggestions to make, or just wish to introduce yourself, do not hesitate to knock on that door, I will be delighted to see you.

Simon Creese-Parsons  
Principal  
Alfred the Great College

