Our Ref: CS/Period 0 (November)

Date: Thursday 12th November 2026

Dame Elizabeth
Cadbury School
www.decschool.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

The next round of **Period 0 at Dame Elizabeth Cadbury School** will begin on **Monday 23 November 2026 at 8.15am**. These sessions give pupils dedicated time with a teacher before the school day begins, with teaching focused on the topics and skills that will make the biggest difference to their progress.

Arrangements for Year 11
Year 11 will continue with Period 0 arrangements that have been in place since September. Some pupils will move to a different subject for this round, based on the progress they have made so far and where teachers feel the additional time will now be most helpful. All pupils recommence their period 0 on Monday 23rd November.

A valuable opportunity for pupils in Years 7 to 10
Over the past few weeks, teachers have been looking closely at assessment results to identify where individual pupils would benefit from extra teaching or practice. For this round of Period 0, they have selected pupils in Years 7 to 10 who would benefit from time to revisit particular topics, strengthen key skills or work through misunderstandings picked up in their assessments across a range of subjects.

What makes Period 0 valuable is the time it gives pupils to focus on a specific area of their learning. A teacher can explain a tricky idea in a different way, talk through a worked example, then give pupils a chance to try it for themselves and get feedback. Pupils also have time to ask the questions they might have held back in class. The aim is for them to take what they have practiced into their next lessons and tackle new work with greater confidence and independence.

We want pupils in Years 7 to 10 to see selection for Period 0 as a positive opportunity. A teacher has identified something specific that will help them move forward. In Year 7, that might mean securing a skill they will use throughout secondary school. In Year 10, it might mean strengthening their understanding of a topic they will build on later in their GCSE course. Giving pupils that support now can make the next steps in their learning easier.

Year 7-10 pupils - When you will hear from us
We will let you know **no later than Tuesday 17 November 2026** whether your child has been selected. If they have, we will confirm which sessions they should attend.

If your child is selected, please talk to them about the opportunity and help them plan to arrive in time for an **8.15am start** on their allocated days. Regular attendance matters because teachers can build on what pupils have practiced in previous sessions and check that they can apply it independently.

A reminder that every child in the school is entitled to a free breakfast from 8.00am. This is a fantastic initiative that has currently served over 3000 breakfasts since September.

Thank you for supporting your child to make the most of this additional time with their teachers.

Yours sincerely



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Head of School

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Matrix Academy Trust
EDUCATION WITHOUT EXCEPTION

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