



THE FOUNTAINS HIGH SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr Gareth Allen

REF: GA/jh

19th July 2021

Dear Parents

As we come to the end of the summer term and yet another unprecedented year, I want to thank you for the support, throughout not only the multiple lockdowns and isolation periods, with remote learning, but also through the calmer periods. The students have been fantastic and are a credit to you. They never fail to brighten my day and it is an absolute joy to see them so engaged and eager to learn at every opportunity.

Yesterday and Wednesday the trust held the recruitment process for the permanent post of Executive Headteacher for Fountains High School, including the post-16 provision based at Burton College, and South Derbyshire Support Centre in Newhall. After having undertaken first the Head School role, then the headteacher and finally the executive headship role, I feel overwhelmingly privileged to have been given the permanent position and I am extremely excited to lead such a fantastic group of individuals in supporting your child to achieve their potential.

As the government start to remove restrictions next week, we are looking to September when the students return. The Department for Education has stated that staggered starts and ends of the day are to end and therefore we will be returning to the normal school day of 0840 to 1510. We understand that some of you will have young children who need to be dropped off and picked up at similar times of the day. We are unable to authorise changes to individual student's timetables, enabling them to start later or finish early. This is because of the Department for Education and Local Authority's regulations governing part-time timetables. Part-time tables can only be for a short-designated period and have to be agreed upon by the Local Authority. Should the start and end times of the day be difficult for you, please contact the school and we will work with you to find a solution. Breakfast clubs and after-school clubs are planned to begin again in September.

Students at Fountains High and in Post-16 will return on Monday 6 September 2021 and students at South Derbyshire Support Centre will return on Tuesday 7 September 2021. The restrictions and guidelines concerning Covid will likely change over the summer and we will be in contact before the start of the term, to let you know any changes. As it stands, students and staff will no longer be asked to wear face coverings, although they can if they wish. Additionally, we will continue to ask students to wear their PE kits to school on the day they have PE lessons and be in uniform on all other days. Students in post-16 do not have to wear school uniform.

We are looking forward to being able to invite parents in to school and college for in-person tours and have face-to-face meetings early in the autumn term.

There are several staff members this summer who are moving on from Fountains and we wish them all the best for the future. Some are seeking new careers, others further education and some also taking the opportunity to retire and enjoy a well-earned break.

Caroline Heathcote, Gianni Frary, Kayleigh Burrows-Flower, Gemma Cawser, Harry Ellis, Patsy Broom, Wendy Nicklin, Jackie Richardson and Arthur Aston. I would also like to welcome Sarah Darby and Vici Lambert-Smith to the team. We will have several new staff joining us in the new year. Finally, I would like to wish Miss Hill all the best for her wedding over the summer and look forward to welcoming her back as Mrs Ashenden in September.

Thank you all once again, have a great summer and a well-earned rest.

Kind regards



Gareth Allen
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