

Our ref: JFM/JC

5 October 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Principal of Dover Christ Church Academy. It is a huge honour to take over this position and, having only joined the Academy in September, I can tell you I am already immensely proud of both my staff and students.

I am sure you will agree that the Academy has made significant improvements in the last few years. I join at the most prosperous point in the Academy's history, with the school being fully staffed with subject specialists, oversubscribed in Year 7 and having achieved its best ever GCSE pass rate including English and Maths.

Our students and staff have started this year with enthusiasm and a sense of purpose, there is a real vibrancy in the classrooms and corridors and our bulging Year 7 cohort have settled into Academy life brilliantly.

I want to continue the journey of improvement that the Academy is following. I am committed to making the best learning environment possible and to make sure that all students feel safe and valued whilst at school. The Academy motto of 'learning to believe, learning to succeed' is not just a tag line. We are working hard to ensure that all students can have a clear pathway to success, with a Post 16 offer that meets all students' needs and leads to the career or Higher Education placement that they desire.

Our Year 11 cohort will be sitting exams at a time of incredible uncertainty, as most subject areas complete the new specification for the first time. During the year we will be inviting parents in for an additional evening to discuss the examination changes. We will also ensure that each student has appropriate additional lesson time and interventions to aid them in achieving the best results they can and I ask that you support us in this endeavour.

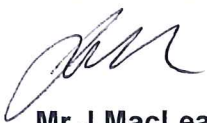
Whilst academic success is important, I believe that our student wellbeing is at the centre of our school. We have fantastic pastoral care that aims to offer the best support to all students. We are currently changing some of our school systems in order to strengthen this team and their work even further.

I am keen to build our school's link with the local community, local industry and businesses. I would welcome any contact from parents or members of the local community who believe that their business or place of employment would enjoy working closely with our school. I believe that growing these partnerships will ensure that we can provide clear pathways and training into employment, apprenticeships or higher education for our entire student body.

All staff are working hard to make sure that lessons are excellent learning environments and we appreciate the support that our parents and carers offer our students with their learning. Whilst the new curriculum is challenging, I believe that we have the staff and students to succeed. Everyday our students do something which astounds and impresses me, I want to assure you that we will strive to make sure they all have the resources and support needed to achieve their full potential.

I look forward to meeting you all in person during the course of the academic year.

Yours faithfully



**Mr J MacLean**  
**Principal**

**Dover Christ Church Academy**

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