

September 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as Interim Headteacher of Ansford Academy from September 2024.

During the past few weeks I have spent some time in the school, meeting key members of staff and the students and I would like to thank everyone who has made my first few visits to the school so welcoming. The school's strong sense of community, along with the warm, friendly and welcoming culture is something that stands out about Ansford Academy.

I am joining the academy under secondment from my role as Director of Secondary Education for the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership (MNSP). In that role I have significant experience of senior leadership and supporting schools in moving on to the next stage of their development journey; particularly moving schools into a Good or Outstanding Ofsted grading.

My role at Ansford Academy will focus on three areas. Firstly, to lead the school on a day-to-day basis until a suitable Headteacher can be found. Secondly, to support the academy's transition to joining the MNSP Trust, which we expect to be in January 2025. Thirdly, to work with the academy's Trustees and leadership team to continue the development work from our Ofsted 2023 actions.

My primary focus however, will be ensuring that your son or daughter is provided with a first class education in a safe and secure environment that will allow him or her to academically flourish.

Children only have one chance at an education and I am committed to every child receiving an inspiring and challenging education which provides the grounding and qualifications to live the very best version of their lives. High expectations alongside a genuine care and regard for every individual sits at the heart of this and is the result of hard work and commitment from everyone.

To achieve that, I will be asking that every student respects their community, follows the school rules at all times and tries their very best in lessons. In return, I will ensure that their teachers are providing high-quality lessons in a focused and productive learning environment that allows every child to succeed.

Although my position as Interim Headteacher will be only temporary, I will be continuing to work with Ansford Academy once it has joined the MNSP Trust, so am fully invested in the Academy's long-term success. We have already started that journey with changes to the academy's curriculum and assessment models; a more targeted and ambitious reading programme; and a clearer structure for quality assuring all aspects of the academy.

I very much look forward to my time at Ansford Academy and to continuing to build upon the community's hard work and achievements to date.

It is important to me that you are able to share your views and aspirations on your child's education and I plan to run 'Meet the Headteacher' events before Christmas. Details of these will be sent out when suitable dates are set.

Alternatively, I hope to see you at one of our upcoming school events, starting with our Year 10 Information Evening on the 11th September. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me via mailbox@ansford.net or upload an enquiry through the contacts page on our website.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Powell', written in a cursive style.

Mr D Powell
Interim Headteacher, Ansford Academy