

**10<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Dear Parent and Carers,**

Starting a new year gives us the opportunity to set ourselves new goals and challenges. My assembly this week has focused on Aspiration and Challenge. I have always been an advocate of personally challenging ourselves, last year I set myself a personal and physical challenge of running my first marathon (which I completed in a respectable time of 4.5hrs). I loved the experience of taking part and the sense of achievement was incredible, however, I'm not sure though whether I would do it again!. This year I have set myself the challenge of becoming the Head of School at Ansford Academy. As many of you know I live within the community and my children have attended/currently attending the school. I am extremely proud to be given the opportunity to lead the school and to work closely with Mr Powell in the next phase of the school's improvement journey. Ansford Academy means a lot to me both as a member of staff and a parent and I am very much looking forward to working with staff and parents in ensuring Ansford Academy is a thriving and successful school.

As an educationalist I have always focused on ensuring young people are provided with top quality education where they feel safe and have the best opportunity to thrive with their studies. We are so fortunate to be provided with a high-quality education system for our children and we must all ensure their experience enables them to gain knowledge and skills that will prepare them to lead productive and fulfilling lives.

High expectations and commitment by all enables this to happen. Your child deserves to receive high-quality teaching from our teachers to enable them to succeed. My focus will be to ensure this happens and so I expect students to respond to this by following school rules at all times, trying their best in lessons and contributing towards the environment where a school is a 'place of work'.

Just before the Christmas break, we sent a letter on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December outlining some key messages on uniform, equipment, book in a bag, detentions, class charts, transport access to the school, medication in schools and leadership changes of the Academy. If you didn't get a chance to read this in the lead up to the busy period of Christmas, please can I ask you to spend some time doing so.

### **Staffing update**

I am delighted to announce that Mr Cue will now be staying with us and taking the position of Assistant Headteacher (Personal Development). Personal development is an extremely important part of our students' growth to become confident, resilient and independent members of our community. Academic success and developing strength of character is key to ensuring our students are positioned to be able to be the best they can be in the future that lies ahead of them. We are very much looking forward to Mr Cue developing our Personal Development portfolio to enable your child to thrive whilst at Ansford Academy.

I am also very pleased to announce that Mrs Lisa Loud has joined us as a full time Maths teacher. Mrs Loud brings a wealth of experience, and we are thrilled that she is joining our maths team.

I am very much looking forward to the term ahead and seeing all the amazing work that will be taking place by our staff and students. As a school we will continue to focus on the development work already started to continue our improvement journey in helping our students become ambitious and successful individuals.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl Musson', with a long, sweeping underline.

Mr Karl Musson  
Head of School, Ansford Academy