

14TH February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It is with great pride that I write to introduce myself as the newly appointed Principal of Outwood Academy City Fields. I have worked for Outwood since 2001 and have spent most of my career working at Outwood Grange Academy and have had the privilege of working with many other schools within our high performing Trust. I specialise in teaching Religious Studies and PHSCe and my real passion in education is making sure young people have the tools to equip themselves for the wider world. Ensuring our young people know how to interact with others, learn how they can be successful in any pursuit and gain confidence in their ability to achieve.

In recent years the academy has undergone significant change and this has over the years affected standards and the quality of education our students experience. Much exciting change is underway to improve the quality of education, this takes time but I see many positive improvements underway. As Principal I bring stability to the academy. My leadership is driven by our vision Students First: Raising Standards and Transforming lives. The key message for all stakeholders is: I am raising standards because I want the very best for my students and school. I will insist all young people act in a safe, responsible and respectful manner so that all can effectively engage in and enjoy their education. All students must be responsible members of our community where everyone's views are respected and all are treated in a respectful way. I intend for our school to be a centre of excellence that we are all proud to belong to. I ask for your full support in ensuring together we expect nothing less for or from our children. I do not want us to make excuses for our students but rather to want the very best for our young people. They deserve this!

A school is more than just a building, it is a centre where our community can flourish. For our young people to thrive they need to be stimulated with quality lessons and experiences. Under my leadership the academy will work to create opportunities for our young people to see themselves as leaders of their own learning, this will in turn help them develop their life chances, flourish in the future and give them the freedom to excel. I am immensely proud of our students and my staff and I will work tirelessly to drive improvement in our academy with your support.

Key areas of focus:

- **Quality in the classroom** - excellent teaching and learning and celebration of effort and success
- **Community Spirit** - strengthening our students appreciation community and togetherness
- **Great experiences** - working with external agencies to bring in new opportunities for our students
- **Improvements to buildings and resources** - a vast amount of work is already underway with further refurbishment and plans for a brand new teaching block
- **Communication** - keeping you informed about the amazing work our student community are producing and sharing up and coming events etc. Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

Positive regard for behaviour - our key message be safe, be responsible, be respectful

Key dates:

- Parents Evening 27 February 4 pm - 7 pm - Please book appointments via your child

I invite you all to work positively with our school and fantastic staff to ensure the very highest standards, expectations and support for our wonderful children.

Yours faithfully



Michelle Colledge-Smith
Principal