



Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

9th March 2020

Dear Families,

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Mr Chris Major, who has joined us this half-term as our new Deputy Headteacher for Inclusion and Standards. Mr Major has a wealth of experience in a number of schools, including most recently a large school setting in Yorkshire where he has been responsible for behaviour, attitudes, safeguarding and pastoral support.

To support us with realising our inclusion vision and to ensure all of our learners are supported and challenged to demonstrate excellent attitudes to learning and exemplary behaviour and conduct at all times, we are delighted to welcome Mr Major to the Longdendale team.

Mr Major started with us at the beginning of this half-term, and he is already making an impact across all year groups. The vast majority of our learners consistently meet our high expectations across all areas of school, and demonstrate professionalism and respect in everything that they do. They are a real pleasure to work with and make a hugely valuable contribution, not only to our school, but also to the wider community. We have had a real focus all academic year on developing the culture of mutual respect both in and out of the classroom. As a result, we have seen improvements in all areas. Where this is not the case, high levels of support and intervention are in place to promote positive behaviour choices to ensure that learning is not disrupted and that all learners feel safe and happy in school. Unfortunately, there are occasions when young people do not respond positively to this and the appropriate sanctions are necessary – we appreciate all of the support that the vast majority of families provide us with when this is required. We have the highest of expectations for your children and welcome your support and the opportunity to work together to ensure these are met. A significant part of Mr Major's work in the first instance is to ensure that behaviour and attitudes across all areas of school are consistently in line with expectations. As part of this, he has already started gathering the views of all of our learners, and will be in contact with you again in the near future with the opportunity for you to share your views and suggestions for improvement.

Alongside this work, Mr Major will also be reviewing our pastoral support to ensure that all learners are supported to successfully access the wider curriculum and to promote their development as highly resilient, positive and successful young people.

Mr Major will update you in the near future with regard to the work he is doing in school to support ongoing improvement within these key areas. In the meantime, thank you for your ongoing support of the school and your child's education at Longdendale. We look forward to continuing to work in partnership with you and your family and in sharing in all of our learners' successes.

Yours faithfully,

Andrea Jones
Headteacher

Yours faithfully,

Chris Major
Deputy Headteacher

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