



## MIDDLEWICH HIGH SCHOOL

HEIDI THURLAND BA (HONS 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS) NPQH HEADTEACHER

16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Welcome to Year 7 Students and Parents**

Please let me introduce myself and my Y7 team. My name is Ms Hanson-Isasi and I am the Achievement Leader for your children. Alongside me, there is Mrs Fahrenholz, our Pastoral leader, and my team of 5 form tutors, these being: Mrs O'Rourke (7B), Mr Evans (7K), Mr Priestly (7N), Mrs Denham (7R) and Mr Taylor (7S). Our main focus is the happiness, progress and development of your children at Middlewich High School.

It has been an absolute pleasure to welcome them; a new school, new year and new beginnings. I am delighted that after a very long break, we have managed to have your children back into school, back learning and back with their friends and colleagues. What has already become clear in the first couple of weeks, is how understanding, supportive and compliant the pupils have been in this new environment. It has also had a very positive impact on their performance academically; they are so focused on their work which is, by large, down to your extensive efforts last year in keeping your child engaged and focused on work in extremely difficult circumstances. I am proud to hear from the primary schools, how well they coped and how they continued to get on with their work over the Lockdown. Perhaps one positive we can draw from this awful period is that students have had to learn to be resilient, ready and self-motivated. These are skills that will bear fruit in the future and we hold very strongly at Middlewich High.

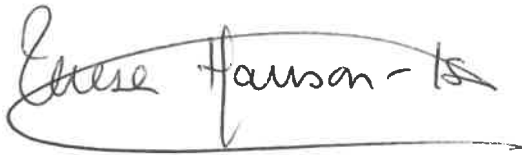
We began the term with an induction programme for Yr7, which ensured that they benefited from the transition programme we would usually have run in the summer term. This has enabled them to settle quickly and happily into the school. Our aim with returning students is to reconnect them with their learning as quickly as possible. Our curriculum in KS3 takes a spiral approach, where skills and topics are revisited or repeated. This will allow us to ensure that they cover the knowledge and skills needed to be successful. Teaching staff will carefully check understanding through questioning, peer assessment, homework and assessments and this will inform their planning. Our faculty teams meet weekly to review student progress and curriculum planning.

Thank you for getting your child to school on time, at 8.30am, and giving them the chance to get ready for tutor time at 8.40am. If your child has a known absence at any point during the year, a letter prior to the absence should be handed to the form tutor. At the same time, it has been an absolute pleasure seeing them wearing the new uniform. They all look really smart and are proud representing the school wearing it. Please, always encourage your son / daughter to come smart, ready for the day with the correct equipment and a positive frame of mind to meet learning expectations.

It has been our usual practice to run a "settling in evening" with form tutors mid-September. With COVID restrictions we have decided that the best way to do this is for each form tutor to contact you so they can introduce themselves, discuss how your child has settled at school and cover any concerns or queries which you may have. We aim to make all these calls between now and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. I hope you find this beneficial and it is the beginning of a positive working relationship with your child's form tutor, who should stay with them for the next 5 years. Should you wish to discuss any matters of a general nature, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Mrs Fahrenholz at school by telephone or email.

Thank you in advance for your support and engagement with this new academic year. Looking forward to working with you during this academic year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Euse Hanson-Isasi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Ms Hanson-Isasi  
Achievement Leader Y7 / Transition