

11th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to you and your families as we begin the new academic year. It has been a privilege to meet the wonderful students and staff of St Aidan's since becoming Headteacher last week. I look forward to building my relationship with you all as we go through the months and years together working in partnership to give all our young people the best possible care, nurture and support, whilst delivering an excellent education.

During our staff training day last week, we took time to reflect on the outstanding GCSE and A Level results that have once again been achieved by our year 11 and year 13 students. Our teaching staff now begin the in-depth analysis of this data so we can ensure we continue to identify areas for improvement and harness best practice to share with others. Staff also took part in the most up to date safeguarding training, spent time together to reflect on our visions and values, and began to set the priorities for this academic year and beyond.

On Tuesday we welcomed our year 7 students and our new and returning students into year 12 before the rest of the year groups joined them on Wednesday. It was wonderful to share time together in their assemblies; to revisit our high expectations, remind ourselves of the values we have that are built on our Church Foundation, and to reflect on how we will all endeavour to find courage to take opportunities that allow us to live life in all its fullness.

On Friday I received an email from a member of the public letting me know that she had seen three St Aidan's students going out of their way to help an elderly gentleman in some difficulty on Thursday evening. I feel extremely proud to be the headteacher of a school where students display kindness and compassion to others: what a lovely way to end my first week.

Please could I politely remind all parents and carers about the importance of school attendance and your role in making sure your child attends school on time every day. Please also support your child to be 'learning ready', this means having the correct equipment, being in correct uniform, and having regard for all our school procedures. Students must remember to have with them their school identity card every day, as this allows them access around the school site as well as the ability to purchase their school lunch.

May I take this opportunity once again to welcome you and your children back to school for this next academic year. I look forward to meeting you and thank you in anticipation for the continued support you give to St Aidan's, working together to ensure all our children get the best possible care, support, and education.

Your faithfully,

Hân Dure,

Mrs Siân Dover

Headteacher

