

## Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Birmingham Street, Walsall, West Midlands, WS1 2ND Tel: 01922 720558

Email: postbox@bluecoatacademy.org Website: www.bluecoatacademy.org

Principal: Mr D Smith

10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your support with a very busy and at times complicated return to school. It is really heartening to see the students moving around school again and engaging in the full range of curriculum opportunities. A programme of extra curricular activities will also be published next week.

I am delighted to be able to welcome a number of new staff to the school:

- Mrs A Allen- EAL Teaching Assistant
- Mrs G Cockayne- Head of Year 7
- Miss T McMahon- Teacher of Science
- Mr N Mytikiotis- Teacher of Computer Science
- Mrs R O Salami- Teaching Assistant
- Mrs I Sheikh- EAL Teaching Assistant

A number of staff left the school over the course of the last term and we wish them well in new jobs and as they pursue new opportunities:

- Miss C Brown
- Mr G Davies
- Mr A Guthrie
- Miss H Horton
- Mrs J Kisiecka
- Mrs C Makan
- Mrs C Radford
- Mr P Radford
- Mrs V Watkiss

The end of term provided an opportunity to pay an appropriate tribute to Mr Hares who retired after almost 40 years of service to the school. I am exceptionally grateful for the amazing dedication and commitment which Mr Hares gave to generations of Blue Coat students. We all wish him well for a happy and healthy retirement.

There will be a number of updates to share in the months to come as we readjust to more normal ways of working again. There are still some measures in place to keep all members of our community safe and healthy including hand sanitizing, improved ventilation and enhanced cleaning. Following the









conclusion of our testing programme in school, I would also ask for your continued support with ongoing twice weekly COVID home testing. Students have been provided with a box of 7 tests to do at home – ideally to be taken before setting out for school on Monday and Thursday mornings. Results can be reported using the links on our website:

www.bluecoatacademy.org/staff-links/student-quick-links

The regulations around self isolation have now changed and the responsibility for identifying close contacts has now move to NHS Track and Trace. We are continuing to work closely with the Walsall Public Health team to keep our school as healthy as possible

Yours faithfully

DJSmith

D. Smith Principal