

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this letter finds you well. I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of The Whitstable School. It is with great enthusiasm that I join the school to continue the journey to excellence and to have the privilege of working alongside the dedicated staff, wonderful students, and supportive parent community.

I bring with me a deep passion for education and a commitment to fostering a safe and disciplined environment where each child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. My extensive experience in school improvement will lead us towards attaining better academic outcomes and to develop a more engaging and challenging curriculum.

At Whitstable, we believe in upholding a set of core values that underpin our educational philosophy. These values serve as a guiding compass for our school community and shape the way we interact, teach, and learn together. I would like to share these values with you, as they will form the foundation of our shared journey:

1. **Leadership:** We foster strong leadership values and attributes to develop integrity, resilience and empathy for all staff and pupils.
2. **Ambition:** We have high academic standards with an exciting, engaging curriculum that challenges all pupils.
3. **Behaviour:** We ensure a disciplined, supportive and well-structured learning environment. We value collaboration, recognising that a strong partnership between students, parents, teachers, and the wider community is essential for achieving success.
4. **Teaching and learning:** We relentlessly focus on the quality of teaching to offer the very best learning experience so pupils can make excellent academic progress.

I will be continuing with the Whitstable TRACK values as they provide a clear framework for pupils.

Tolerance

I listen carefully to other pupils' views and opinions.

I show understanding and respect for others and do not discriminate.



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Resilience

I accept that making mistakes is part of learning.

I display a positive attitude to all tasks I undertake.

Achievement

I celebrate my own and other people's successes.

I strive to achieve in all that I do and support others to achieve.

Courtesy

I listen at all times and contribute when requested.

I display excellent manners and at all times treat everyone with respect.

Knowledge

I take pride in my work and am willing to answer questions.

I value knowledge and understand that it is the cornerstone to a good education.

I look forward to the opportunity of meeting with you and working collaboratively to provide an exceptional educational experience for your son or daughter. Please mark your calendars for our upcoming parent curriculum afternoons, where I will have the opportunity to share more details about our plans and vision for the future. We have separate events for Years 7, 11 and the sixth form and further information will be sent out in due course.

Year 8 curriculum afternoon Wednesday 20th September 2:30 - 3:30pm

Year 9 curriculum afternoon Thursday 21st September 2:30 - 3:30pm

Year 10 curriculum afternoon Wednesday 27th September 2:30 - 3:30pm

Thank you



Alex Holmes
Headteacher



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