



Monday 4 May 2020

Dear Parent / Carer and Student

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you, to express how privileged and proud I feel to be appointed as the future Headteacher of Warlingham School & Sixth Form College and to say how much I am looking forward to working with governors, staff, parents and students to ensure the School motto 'Wide Horizons, High Aspirations' is a reality for every Warlingham student.

I realise that Warlingham is a very good school and it is my aim to continue to deliver and build on the school's great strengths. I have been fortunate to teach and be part of the school leadership in 3 schools most recently as Senior Vice Principal at Hayes school in Bromley where we were able to take the school to Ofsted Outstanding. I would want nothing less for Warlingham and therefore one of our key aims would be working towards achieving this.

In my work as a school leader I ask myself two questions. Firstly, 'Would this be good enough for my child?' As a parent of a 14 year-old and an 11 year-old, this is a very real question that guides my leadership and decision-making, because, if it isn't good enough for my child, then it isn't good enough for a student at Warlingham! Secondly, 'Would I like to work with a colleague like me?' The expectations we have of ourselves and our colleagues and the way we behave towards each other is key to building a truly effective team that can provide the very best education and care for the children.

Likewise, I consider a positive relationship with parents / carers to be crucial. We are a team, working to do the best for every student, not only to secure excellent examination results but also to build their character so they are able to have bright and happy futures and become proactive members of our community.

Finally, I had originally planned to start as Headteacher of Warlingham in September, in order to fulfil my commitment to my current Year 13 examination classes and to see through the work I lead on at Hayes. However, I am very grateful to my current school who have agreed to release me so I can join Warlingham on Monday 1st June. This will secure a smooth transition and allow me to begin planning for the next academic year, alongside the Senior Leadership Team. I look forward to using this earlier start as an opportunity to get to know governors, staff, parents and the students so that together, we can begin the work to build on the strengths of the School and identify key objectives for further improvement. Whilst the current situation with COVID-19 and its associated safety restrictions may delay these meetings being in person, I look forward to supporting all staff in managing the current situation and in planning a return to normal school life, whenever that might be.

In the meantime, I sincerely hope that you and your families are safe and well.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Foster
Headteacher (from 1st June 2020)

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