

27th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be able to write my first letter as the new Principal of Moorside Primary Academy in September. I feel extremely honoured and privileged to be able to continue to build upon the school's success and push the school to the next level.

Over seven years ago, I was appointed as Phase Leader of Moorside, and before that, I spent several years working as a teacher and Maths Leader at another Tameside school. Since then, I have taken on the Assistant and Vice Principal roles at Moorside. In 2022, I was nominated and awarded Fellowship status (FCCT) with the Chartered College of Teaching for driving teaching and learning as well as my commitment to whole-school improvement. My passion for teaching has continuously been focused on helping pupils to better themselves regardless of their starting points or backgrounds, encouraging them to aim high and become the best possible versions of themselves.

Having taught extensively at Moorside, I have been fortunate enough to build some positive relationships with our families. For me, parents and carers play an invaluable role in ensuring our pupils enjoy school and succeed, and I am keen on continuing to develop a whole-school community which thrives on mutual respect and values positive relationships. It is crucial that you have a voice and that, as a school, we are approachable and take time to listen to your thoughts, concerns and suggestions on what we are doing well as well as how to improve the school further. With this in mind, I would like to set up a 'Parent Voice' group in the Autumn Term and invite parents for an informal coffee morning. This will be an opportunity to meet other parents and chat with me and other staff members over a cup of coffee and a slice of cake. Watch this space!

I now look forward to putting down roots and leading Moorside in the next stage of its exciting journey, building upon the successes of Mrs Taylor and the previous Leadership Teams. I wish Mrs Taylor the best of luck in her new post and hope to welcome her back to our Moorside family soon. I am also pleased to announce that we have a newly formed Leadership Team: Mrs Patel has been appointed as our new Vice Principal, and we have Mrs Northey and Mrs Cicchirillo joining us as Assistant Vice Principals. Mrs Patel has been teaching for 14 years and has worked as the SEND Lead and Deputy Safeguarding Lead. More recently, she has gained invaluable experience working across the 32 schools in our Trust, as the SEND Officer. Mrs Northey joins Moorside from Flowery Field Primary, where she worked for over 15 years, most recently as Lead Practitioner with a focus on improving standards across the curriculum. Prior to that role, she worked in large primary schools in Manchester and Valencia, Spain. Mrs Cicchirillo has 10 years of teaching experience, and has taught in schools across Liverpool and Tameside. Since joining the Moorside team two years ago, she has worked as a class teacher and the English Lead for the school.

Mrs McGuire will be our new Pastoral Lead and will be your first port of call if you need to speak to someone over a hot drink or require any further support from school. Miss Grindrod will also be taking over as SEND Lead and has been shadowing Mrs Patel this year as well as completing the NASENCo award. She knows the children across school well and is passionate about meeting the needs of our pupils with SEND. We are also delighted to welcome two new teachers, Miss Cull and Mr Davies who will be joining us in September.

'Striving for Excellence'

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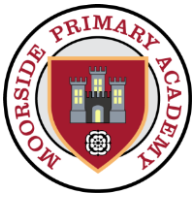
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We have been working hard on our Vision and Values to ensure we all know what we want for our pupils attending Moorside. We believe that all pupils and staff should be allowed to thrive and achieve their very best and our current vision is:

'Every child will be a confident, resilient, lifelong learner with strong foundations to succeed and achieve their full potential.'

We have values that underpin everything we do at Moorside and these are 'Pride, Collaboration, Understanding and Aspiration'. Our Vision and Values are not just about pupils, parents or even teachers— they are about every single person connected to Moorside and should reflect how we feel about the young people in our care and the futures we are trying to shape.

I believe that only by working together can we provide an environment where pupils flourish and have the best possible school experience. I am fortunate to have a hugely committed team and wonderful pupils, which is a great place for any new Principal to start! Ultimately, we want children to leave school with the very best foundations to be successful learners, and for me, there is no greater responsibility than changing the lives of pupils and serving our communities.

I hope that I can count on your support as we move forward, and I look forward to welcoming you back to school in September.

Have a wonderful Summer!

Warm regards,

Mr S. Ismail

Principal from September 2023