

St Michael's Church of England High School

A Church of England Academy

Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Rongong BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Growing in Body, Mind and spirit



6 January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to introduce myself to you as the new Headteacher at St Michael's. Having worked in five previous schools, most recently as sole Deputy Headteacher at Chapel-en-le-Frith High School and previously as Deputy Headteacher at a large comprehensive school in Tameside, I have a wide range of experience in a variety of settings. As we start the new year, I feel excited and blessed to be joining you and leading this wonderful school.

As a mum of five (now adult) children, I understand that, as parents, we want the best for our children. My background is that I grew up in Knowsley, one of the most deprived local authorities in the country. My personal education was a challenge and it was the support of some key members of staff in my school that enabled me to develop a love of learning and a passion to succeed. Quite simply, they taught me to dream bigger than I could have imagined. This has very much shaped my approach to school leadership; to encourage aspiration, the desire to succeed, and most importantly to never underestimate the happiness factor.

The experience of raising five children has helped me to understand how different we all are and to value and celebrate the uniqueness of every individual. This goes beyond the academic, as we encourage broader personal and spiritual development. I am a passionate supporter of the arts and sport, and my own faith in God is integral to all that I do.

More often than not, those who are happy at school are more likely to achieve their potential. From my experience of being a teacher for over 30 years, I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together. Parents and carers make an incredibly important contribution to children's achievements at school and I hope to further develop the relationship between the school, parents/carers and the community, for everyone's benefit.

When I first visited St Michael's in May 2024, I realised, life here is different. I was immediately struck by the Christian ethos, running through every aspect of school. The result is a wonderful community where positive and supportive relationships shine through. Knowing my values align so closely to those of St Michael's make me excited to take on the leadership of the school and for what the future holds.

I am very much looking forward to working with you to support your child to achieve their potential and I hope to meet as many of you as possible in the near future.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Rachel Rongong
Headteacher

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