

**Opportunity, Ambition & Excellence for All through Collaboration, Empowerment & Achievement**

Dear Families

I am delighted to introduce myself as the newly appointed Headteacher for Werneth School from September 2024. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Foy & Ms Chantler, as well as the whole staff team at Werneth for sustaining the school's journey as we come to the end of the 2023-24 academic year.

As Headteacher, I take on a profound responsibility to serve the children, young people and families of Werneth. My commitment to education is deeply personal, having grown up in inner city Liverpool in the 1980s, and been the first of my family to go on to complete studies at university. My moral purpose is to ensure that all students regardless of their personal circumstances and socio-economic background can achieve the best outcomes personally, socially and economically; thrive as global citizens and seize opportunities to take their place in the world.

My career has spanned a variety of school types, experiences and settings – including high performing international schools, as well as schools moving out of Special Measures. Most recently, I supported the Greater Manchester Education Trust in improving student and family services as well as attendance, safeguarding and inclusion at Parris Wood High School in East Didsbury; having previously helped transform The East Manchester Academy in Beswick into a beacon of hope and aspiration.

It is now my privilege and honour to lead the community that is Werneth School and to support the Education Learning Trust, governors, school, colleagues, students and families. Together we can achieve more than might have been thought possible, becoming an institution that is continuously seeking improvement to deliver a world class education to serve the needs of its community. I am deeply committed to ensuring that together with our dedicated staff we can provide the equality of opportunity needed to ensure students are valued, supported, challenged and empowered to achieve.

An effective leader is one who is concerned with the needs of people, someone who has vision and direction to motivate and enthuse the entire school community. I believe in consultation, collaboration, challenge, modelling, support, mentoring and coaching. Effective challenge and support require empathy and an understanding of context – but with a view that this context should not be a barrier to high expectations and aspirations. Indeed, we should not shy away from being clear that everyone can and should achieve - especially when children only get one childhood.

I promise that every student at Werneth will be known, understood & valued and together with the promise of the right support and challenge at the right time we will transform the lives of those students entrusted into our care. I am looking forward to meeting with you as we embark on a transformational journey together. My door is always open, and I look forward to welcoming your thoughts, ideas and feedback as we work together to build a brighter future for the community that is Werneth School. I am confident that with your continued partnership we can achieve great things together.

Best wishes

David Goddard  
Headteacher

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