



ST PAUL'S ACADEMY

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Principal: Mrs S M Ward BA (Hons) AKC

9 January 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take the opportunity at the beginning of the year to wish you and your families every blessing for the year ahead. It is a delight and an honour to be appointed as Principal of St Paul's Academy; working in this community is a privilege. I want to express our gratitude to Miss Malone for the care and service that she has given to your families, staff and students over many years and I hope to honour that service by emulating her grace, commitment and hard work.

I had the privilege of meeting every year group at St Paul's today to see them face to face and share with them my commitment to their academic, personal and spiritual development. Over the coming weeks, I will see them day to day in their classrooms, on the gate and in the playground to get to know them even more.

Accompanying young people on their journey in education brings me real joy in my vocation as a teacher which started at the original St Paul's back in 1995 when I was a trainee teacher. Since then, my path has taken me to a number of schools in the South East, including St John's Gravesend, St Thomas More Eltham, St Catherine's, St Ursula's and then returning to Kent working in a large Academy trust.

As parents and carers, what you contribute to your child's education every day is vital. You ensure that they really get the most out of every school day by encouraging them to bring the right focus and attitude and praising them as often as you can for doing so. I look forward to getting to know you and your families more as the year progresses and I assure you of my commitment to academic excellence, outstanding pastoral and spiritual care and to securing hopeful, fulfilling futures for your children and those you care for.

With my very best wishes,

**Mrs Sheila Ward**  
**Principal**



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