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Headteacher: Miss Claire White

Specialist Science College

High Performing Specialist School

9th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to write to you as the newly appointed Head of School (11-16) for Bodmin College. It has been a whirlwind first half-term in post, with many highlights.

Firstly, I have been struck by the very warm welcome that I have received from students. It was a real pleasure to lead assemblies for every year group alongside my two Trust Deputy Headteachers, Miss Anna Mills and Ms Kym O'Mara. We wanted to share with the children a little about ourselves and why education is so important to us, particularly emphasizing that our goal is for every child to experience a life of choice and opportunity in the future through having an excellent educational experience.

I have already experienced moments of deep pride this term: the fundraising efforts of the community for Children's Hospice Southwest in the Reindeer Run at Christmas was fantastic; the outstanding achievements of our sports teams competing in local and national events and watching our school production of Frozen Jr left me feeling exceptionally proud (as well as covered in a fairly significant amount of glittery snow!).



The children are rising to meet higher levels of expectation at the school. The behaviour of the vast majority of students has improved considerably in the last term and I have received numerous visitors who have commented on the site feeling calm and lessons purposeful. The new school uniform is smart and when worn correctly, gives students a genuine sense of pride and confidence.

These are great foundations to work from as, together, with the senior leadership team and wider staff body, we seek to continue to raise expectations for every student, knowing that every child at Bodmin College can achieve exceptional standards during their time with us.

From my experience of being a senior leader for 14 years, I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together. As parents and carers, you make an important contribution to your children's achievements, and I am eager to build on the relationship between you and the school.

Prior to joining Bodmin College, I was a Deputy Headteacher at Poltair School in St Austell one of five secondary schools in Cornwall Education Learning Trust (CELT). At Poltair, I had responsibility for the Quality of Education which meant that I led the development of the curriculum and improvements to the quality of teaching. This role equipped me with understanding school improvement and achieving a safe, ambitious, and happy school. I am excited to be able to put into practice all that I have learned from my time at Poltair, working together as a community to achieve improvements for the students of Bodmin College.



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I am determined that we give plenty of opportunities to parents and carers, as well as students, to share your thoughts throughout our school improvement journey. I will be holding a number of events over the next terms, including drop-in sessions and meet and greets with myself and other key personnel in the school leadership team, and I look forward to meeting many of you there. These meetings will take place at a number of different times in the hope that as many families as possible will have the opportunity to attend.

You are also welcome to contact me by email at head@bodmincollege.co.uk or via phone on 01208 72114.

Yours sincerely

Miss Claire White

Head of School (11-16)



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