



# Moorside High School

*Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions*

September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to warmly welcome you and your child to Team Moorside as they begin their journey into high school. Starting Year 7 is an exciting milestone, and we are committed to ensuring that every student settles in well, feels supported, and has the opportunity to thrive both academically and personally.

It goes without saying that students need to be in school for them to make excellent progress. Sadly, for every 5% of absence, on average a child drops 1 GCSE grade per subject. At Moorside High School, we strive for every student to have attendance above 97%. Whilst we understand that illness is sometimes unavoidable, we urge parents to consider carefully whether their child can be sent into school and wherever possible schedule medical and dental appointments outside of school hours. Often, differing from the advice from primary schools, we are more than happy to have students in school if they are feeling slightly 'under the weather' and we can support them in a nurturing environment if necessary. Sending them to school means they don't miss out on crucial lessons and do not fall behind their peers. If a student's attendance drops to 90% (termed a Persistent Absentee), they will have missed approximately 95 hours of lessons by the end of the year, I am sure you will agree this is a significant amount of missed learning and will have a negative impact on future assessments and attainment.

Whilst academic achievement is of utmost importance, we see our role as being more than that. It is for that reason we place great value on ensuring our young people grow into socially responsible and well-rounded young adults and I will help them to become more resilient and support them through issues that they face. During Year 7, pupils will have the opportunity to support Transition during the open evening. Sharing their experiences of starting school with the current year 6 pupils and parents. This year there has been a huge focus on respect and peer-peer relationships, and I expect that focus to continue with my new year group in September. In year 7 I encourage students to embrace all challenges and not to be deterred by 'failure'. It is my goal to equip all students with the necessary skills so they can excel in the more challenging years that lie ahead. Ultimately, I want students to be confident in themselves so they can thrive in the classroom and be socially responsible.

We understand that transition can bring many questions, please remember you can direct any queries you have to [MHSTransition@consilium-at.com](mailto:MHSTransition@consilium-at.com). Alternatively, we are going to be running three after-school drop-in sessions on the following evenings:



- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September – SEND Focus
- Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September – Academic Focus
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October – Settling in Focus

If you would like to drop-in to discuss any concerns, please register your interest via the QR code above.

We look forward to working with you to make this an enjoyable and successful year for your child, as always if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Kind regards

Mr T Williams  
Head of Year 7



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