

11th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we begin a new academic year, I am delighted to introduce myself as your child's Head of Year 8. Having previously worked with the Year 7 cohort in this role, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to continue supporting, guiding and nurturing your child as they progress through their secondary school journey.

I am very much looking forward to working closely with you throughout the year. By working together, we can ensure that every young person has the support, encouragement and opportunities they need to have a positive, successful and enjoyable experience at Moorside High School.

As Head of Year, part of my responsibility is to reinforce the clear and important expectations we have at Moorside. These include our expectations around uniform, appearance, behaviour, punctuality and respect for others. These standards are not simply rules; they help us create a safe, welcoming and positive environment in which every student can learn, grow and feel a sense of belonging. If you are ever unsure about any of our expectations or standards, further information can be found on the Moorside High School website. www.moorsidehigh.co.uk

Attendance and punctuality are incredibly important in enabling young people to make progress, both academically and socially. Every lesson provides an opportunity to learn, develop confidence, strengthen relationships and take another step forward. At Moorside, we want every student to attend school every day unless they are unwell or there are exceptional circumstances. We would therefore greatly appreciate your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school on time, fully prepared and ready to learn each day. Wherever possible, we ask that routine medical and dental appointments are arranged outside of school hours to minimise disruption to learning. We understand that there will be occasions when absence is unavoidable, but we also know that small gaps in attendance can quickly become patterns. Our shared aim should always be to ensure that your child is in school, learning and making the most of every opportunity available to them.

Communication between home and school is extremely important to us. We want to build positive relationships with families so that we can celebrate successes together and provide early support whenever a challenge arises. If you ever have a concern about your child, please do not hesitate to contact me. Whether your child is finding something difficult, needs additional encouragement or has something they are particularly proud of, I want them to know that there are adults around them who care about their success and wellbeing. As a school, we are committed to knowing our students well and ensuring that they feel safe, valued and supported. By working collaboratively, we can help your child overcome challenges, recognise their strengths and reach their full potential.

Year 8 is an exciting opportunity for your child to build on the foundations they developed in Year 7. I want to see every student continue to grow in confidence, independence and resilience while developing positive habits that will support them throughout the rest of their school journey.

I am really looking forward to getting to know the young people in the year group even better, celebrating their achievements and supporting them through any challenges they may face.

I hope that Year 8 will be a happy, successful and memorable year for your child. I look forward to working with you and your child throughout the year and to celebrating their successes along the way.

Kind regards,

Miss H Baldwin
Head of Year 8