



Mill Chase Academy

Ambition, Courage, Excellence

Mill Chase Road, Bordon,
Hampshire, GU35 0ER

Principal: Mr Paul Hemmings MA

T 01420 472132
F 01420 479986
E enquiries@millchase.hants.sch.uk
W www.millchase.hants.sch.uk

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Dear Parents & Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year. I hope you are looking forward to the term ahead.

It has been wonderful to welcome back all our students to school and we are delighted to be joined by our new Year 7 students along with several new students in other year groups who have changed schools.

I have been impressed with how smart all our students have been this week, showing a real sense of pride in wearing their uniform and being part of our school. It is also lovely to see how much our students smile around the school as well, showing how safe, happy and confident our young people are here.

There has been much reporting around this year's GCSE results with major changes in the awarding of grades in all subjects which now have the same new grading system introduced to English and Mathematics last year. This year the new Grade 4 is comparable to a C grade from last year and Grade 7 is similar to a Grade A.

In September 2017, I encouraged all teachers to rise to the challenge of matching the performance of the best 20% of schools in the country using the Fisher Family Trust national system.

Our GCSE results showed that 8 subjects met or exceeded these high targets and a further 6 subjects were incredibly close with just under two-fifths of a grade below on average. It is clear that when a school couples high quality pastoral care with high standards and expectations, young people flourish and can achieve their very best.

This summer's excellent results are testament to the talented and committed teachers that we have at Mill Chase who work in excellent partnership with supportive parents and hard working students at our school.

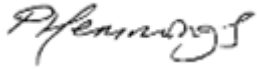
We welcome a number of new staff to strengthen our school even further and I am pleased to have made excellent appointments against a backdrop of a national teacher recruitment crisis. Mrs Pullinger joins the English and Mathematics teams. Mr Blundell joins us as a Computing teacher, Mr Godwin is teaching science and PE, Miss Daly joins the languages department, Mrs Sutehall is Head of Humanities and teaches Geography, Miss Sygrove teaches History. We also welcome two new teaching assistants, Miss Figg and Mrs Hobbs. Mrs Hiscock will join us as a Pastoral Assistant and Mrs Firth- Bernard is our Food Technology technician.



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Later this month, we will hold our annual Open Evening for future parents which will provide them with the opportunity to learn about our high levels of pastoral care, meet our highly motivated pupils, speak with our excellent dedicated teachers and discover why the ethos at MCA is so strong. We will also share the plans for our new school buildings due to open in September 2019. If you have friends, family and neighbours who will shortly be choosing their secondary school, please encourage them to visit us on Thursday 27th September at 6:30pm.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'P Hemmings'.

Mr P Hemmings
Principal