

21st July 2023

Headteacher's end-of-year update: July 2023

Dear Families,

I think we will all look back on the 2022-23 academic year as a year of significant change. With change came challenges to overcome and opportunities to seize, demonstrating how wonderfully resilient and receptive our Academy and students have become.

One significant change has been joining the Lighthouse Schools Partnership multi-academy trust. We are already seeing the benefit in the support we are receiving around school improvement, both in terms of the classroom and out-of-class experience for our students and in the fabric of the school environment. It is great to be part of the partnership with colleagues from across North Somerset and B&NES and we look forward to working closely with them in future.

Another significant step forward was the agreement over the future of Churchill Sports Centre. I am delighted that the building will be part of the Academy and the trust's resources for our students, staff and community to use going forward. Work is already underway to complete the necessary repairs, maintenance and modification to ready the building for our use; we anticipate a handover in early 2024.

In my [recent Headteacher's Update](#), I provided you all with information about our new strategic plan and behaviour policy that we are adopting in September. These documents are important to us all and will reinforce the Academy's ethos and support us as we step forward together, to continually improve at our school in the best interests of all our students.

Staffing update

I am delighted to confirm that we have made excellent recruitments to our staff for September 2023. I have been delighted with the calibre and quality of applications we have received, especially given the challenges facing all

schools with recruitment at the moment. We are really looking forward to working with new colleagues from September. The following new staff are joining us:

Staff name	Role
Ms R North	Teacher of RE
Mr D Garrett	Teacher of Science
Miss L Heyworth	Teacher of PE
Mr O Corke	Leader of Learning - Psychology
Mrs L Murphy	Teacher of Dance
Mrs L Abbott	Teacher of Maths
Ms J Cattani	Teacher of French and Spanish
Miss D Parker	Teacher of English
Dr A Hunter-Craig	Teacher of Science
Mr G Davey	Teacher of PE
Mr C Shaddick	Teacher of Computer Science and ICT
Mrs E Hamill	Headteacher's PA and Clerk to Governors

We also have a number of staff moving to new roles within the Academy, as follows:

Staff name	New Role
Miss G Hunt	Leader of Learning- Maths Advanced Stage
Mr J Patel	Leader of Learning KS4 English
Miss H James	Deputy Director of Faculty- PE
Mrs E Slocombe	Specialist Assessor and EAA Coordinator
Mrs E Hudson	Exams, Data & Systems Officer
Miss P Dunning	Finance Manager
Mrs C Whittle	Attendance Team Leader
Mr A Slater	Head of Hanover House
Mr D Thomas	Behaviour Systems Lead

We are also delighted to welcome back from maternity leave Mrs C Taylor, who will resume her duties as Head of Lancaster House, and Miss V Cook to resume her role as Teacher of Dance.

Mrs Hayne is taking a sabbatical from her role as Head of Hanover House next year. I am delighted that Mr Slater has been appointed as Head of Hanover House to cover Mrs Hayne's sabbatical and we look forward to welcoming him into the role from September.

Our marketing and sustainability manager, Mrs Franklin, is starting a secondment in the Lighthouse Schools Partnership central team in September; we wish her well in this and look forward to continuing to work with her in this new capacity.

And finally, congratulations to Mr Carpenter in the Humanities Faculty, who successfully defended his PhD thesis this month. He will therefore be Dr Carpenter from September - very well done!

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to a number of colleagues at the end of this year. We say farewell to:

- Mrs R Dudman (Science)
- Mr G Hart (PE)
- Mr E Bennetts (Languages)
- Mrs J Griffiths (Languages)
- Miss V Piper (Maths)
- Mrs K Falconer (Maths Tuition)
- Miss L Morris (Maths)
- Mr S Joyce (Psychology)
- Miss M Domaille (English)
- Mr T Jones (PE)
- Mr J Fisher (Computing)
- Mr G Atwell (PE)
- Miss M Sanderson (Dance)

We thank them all for their contribution to the Academy over their time with us and wish them all well in their future careers.

Arrangements for the start of term: September 2023

Finally, a quick reminder about the arrangements for the start of term in September 2023:

Date	Event
Monday 4th September	Inset day for staff only. Academy closed to students.

Date	Event
Tuesday 5th September	Term starts for Year 7 and Year 12 students only.
Wednesday 6th September	Term starts for students in Years 8-11; term continues for students in Years 7-12.
Thursday 7th September	Term starts for students in Year 13. All students back in school.

A full list of term dates and inset days can be found on our website here:

<https://www.churchill-academy.org/Information/Term-Dates/>.

With thanks for all your support over the course of the past year: have a great summer.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hildrew
Headteacher