



The Hollins Technology College

A High Performing Specialist School

Headteacher: Mr S Campbell BEd Hons



20 September 2011



Dear Parent/Guardian



I am delighted to welcome back everyone for what promises to be a very busy term ahead. Although the summer holiday already feels like a distant memory I do hope you have all enjoyed the break and your son/daughter has returned to school eager and ready for another challenging and exciting year. Having just taken up my post as Headteacher, I am looking forward to working with staff, parents and students alike.



The GCSE results over recent years have been truly outstanding and the school has received national recognition of this each year for the last four years. This year we have the distinction of being the best school in Lancashire for achieving above statistically predicted targets. According to these statistics we should have achieved 44% and we increased that by 21% to 65%. A phenomenal achievement! Our designation as a Leading Edge school has involved us in working with partner schools in order to raise achievement across all our establishments. Last year we continued to successfully support two additional Lancashire schools as part of the 'Gaining Ground' initiative, this project will continue, despite funding being cut, in the current academic year as it benefits all parties.



We are once again delighted with the outstanding GCSE results from our Year 11 'Leavers', a record number of pupils (65%) achieved 5 or more A*-C grades including English and maths. Our headline 5 A*-C GCSE grade was again our best ever at 80%, with 18% of all grades awarded at A or A*.



These fantastic results are a credit to the hard work of staff, pupils and parents and undoubtedly show the benefits of a real, effective partnership. We wish all our Year 11 'Leavers' every success in the future, I have no doubt that they will build on their excellent work here at The Hollins.



As we start this new academic year I am confident that this year's Year 11 can match, and perhaps even surpass, this tremendous achievement.



Hollins Lane, Accrington, Lancs, BB5 2QY

T: 01254 233500 F: 01254 236970 enquiries@thehollins.com www.thehollins.com

We welcome several new members of staff who joined us in September: Mrs Haydock, (Deputy Headteacher), Miss Finney, (Assistant Headteacher), Mrs Pearson (Subject Leader English) and Mrs Barnfather (Modern Foreign Languages). Mrs Dougan is currently on maternity leave and her role as Assistant Headteacher is being covered by Mrs Ferguson and her Subject Leader role by Miss King. Mrs Ferguson's role as Year 11 Coordinator is being covered by Mrs Tattersall. Miss Bell will also begin her maternity leave shortly and her replacement will be Mr Atkinson.

I am always very appreciative of the support we receive from parents and value the strong partnership that exists between home and school. I look forward to working together to ensure the very best outcomes for all young people. One of our priorities for last year was to improve attendance and I am pleased to report that we made further progress in raising pupil attendance, with support from home, to 94.1%. Although this represents another improvement, we continue to aim for excellent attendance (more than 95%) for all.

If you would like to become even more active in your support for The Hollins you may wish to consider becoming a Parent Governor. There are currently three vacancies and letters have been sent home relating to this. If you would like more information about this role, please feel free to contact Liz Johnson, Headteacher's PA and Clerk to Governors, at school.

You may be aware that we have updated our school website and we hope to encourage the increased use of it to communicate with parents and pupils - please check it out for our most recent news and forthcoming events. Copies of school policies, school calendar and other important information are also available.

I thank you in anticipation of your support and look forward to a successful year at The Hollins.

If you do wish to discuss anything with me please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Yours faithfully

S Campbell

Headteacher