



Weymouth, Dorset DT4 9SY
t: 01305 830500 f: 01305 830555
w: <http://www.budmouth.dorset.sch.uk> e: budmouth@budmouth.dorset.sch.uk
Principal: Richard A Jacobs B.A. (Hons) P.G.C.E., P.G.C.M., N.P.Q.H.

8th January, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy New Year! I do hope that you and your families enjoyed the Christmas holiday period. I am delighted to have been asked by the Interim Executive Board and Dorset County Council, to support Budmouth College in the role of Executive Principal. I am really excited to start working with everyone who is involved in the College: the IEB, DCC, staff, parents and most importantly the students themselves. I am confident that 2019 is going to be a successful year for Budmouth.

The Spring Term is usually the shortest of the year, however it is often the busiest! For Years 11 and 13 there are important exams looming on the horizon and I am sure we all wish these students a happy and productive term. I thought it might be helpful if I outlined for you what I see as my key priorities for the Spring Term. I have shared these with staff in a useful meeting on Monday.

- 1) **Bringing together a new Senior Leadership Team.** You will be aware there have been a number of changes and so to confirm, the new team is as follows:

David Herbert	Executive Principal (Self Evaluation/ Improvement Planning/OFSTED Action Plan)
Mark Cavill	Vice Principal (Quality of Teaching and Learning/Pastoral Leadership)
Pete Hudson	Vice Principal (Curriculum/Data/Raising Achievement)
Rob Russell	Associate Leader (Pupil Premium/Safeguarding/Behaviour)
Peter Lydford	Assistant Principal (Behaviour and Attendance)
Andy Clark	Assistant Principal (Pastoral System/Intervention/Pupil Premium)
Lesley Carter	Assistant Principal (Curriculum/Options/Home Learning/Reports)
Sophie Ives	Assistant Principal (Teaching and Learning Development/CPD)
Mark Henman	Assistant Principal (Director of Post 16/Timetable).

I'd like to welcome Rob Russell who is joining Budmouth for the Spring and Summer Terms. Rob has significant senior leadership experience in a number of schools and he is going to help support the new team in some important areas. I'd like to thank Mark Cavill and Pete Hudson who now assume the roles of Vice Principal. They did an excellent job stepping up to lead the school at the end of last term in what were difficult circumstances. I'd also like to congratulate our new team of Assistant Principals. These will be familiar names to you all and I know they are excited at assuming their new responsibilities. The above shows only a summary of everyone's key roles (a full list can be seen on the website) and there may be some changes to these as the term unfolds and the team develops.

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- 2) **Getting prepared for OFSTED Monitoring Inspection 2.** The inspectors who visited Budmouth in September 2018 were very positive about the progress that was being made. We hope to be able to demonstrate that this has been embedded and the following areas are very important in this: evidence of impact with disadvantaged students, greater consistency in the quality of teaching, visibility of higher expectations in teaching, better standards of behaviour and attendance and evidence of improved outcomes.
- 3) **Improving provision for our 'Disadvantaged' students.** These are the students for whom we receive additional 'Pupil Premium' funding (children receiving free school meals, children in care, children who have been adopted or are looked after under a Special Guardianship Order). Rob Russell is going to lead this area and will follow up on a helpful review that Dorset County Council conducted in November 2018.
- 4) **Improving standards of behaviour in College.** We are already working with some external consultants who conducted a behaviour audit in December 2018. At Monday's staff meeting we discussed different aspects of managing behaviour, both in lessons and around the College at social times. There will be a new Behaviour for Learning Policy which is likely to take effect from Monday 21st January. This will be run on stricter lines with swifter and more severe consequences (with better rewards) and I am confident you will support the College staff as we seek to ensure the highest standards of behaviour. This will help lead to better outcomes and, in my experience, happier children. These changes will be confirmed before the new policy is enforced.
- 5) **Securing improved exam results.** Our exam results in Summer 2018 were already a big improvement on 2017. This is always a very important term for making sure the students are well prepared. We will be looking carefully at the results of mock exams and subjects will be considering how they can use the time that is left to provide important intervention and support. There is still a lot that can be achieved between now and the exams, I am sure many New Year's resolutions have been made! I am pleased to hear about the excellent results our Year 13 have had with their university applications. The results in this area of the College continue to look much stronger and we will build on this.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming term and getting to know as many students as quickly as I can. I have already been given a very warm welcome by everyone I have met and I would like to thank you in advance for your support this term.

Yours sincerely



David Herbert
Executive Principal