



Fleetwood High School

A Specialist ICT and Sports College

Headteacher's Secretary: Mrs A Cronshaw Tel: (01253) 879392 Fax: (01253) 879380 Email: acronshaw@fleetwoodhs.org.uk

Our Ref: BAR/ACR

9 May 2012

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am writing to you to introduce myself as the new Headteacher at Fleetwood High School. My name is Richard Barnes and prior to taking up role at the school on Tuesday 1 May, I was Deputy Headteacher at Palatine Sports College in Blackpool for 5 years. I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher at Fleetwood High - as a Fleetwood boy born and bred it is a great privilege to have the opportunity to lead my hometown school in the next stage of its exciting journey.

The school has, under the leadership of Mr Roe and Mr Steele, certainly made huge steps forward in recent years. In their most recent visit to Fleetwood High School Ofsted noted that, 'Student attainment is rising at a faster rate than that found nationally' and this trend continued last year with a huge 13% increase in the crucial 5+ A*-C including Maths and English. This put the school third on the whole of the Fylde Coast for rising results. Such achievements could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of an extremely talented staff.

Of course excellent exam results, such as the ones achieved in recent years at Fleetwood High, are vitally important but Fleetwood High School has so many additional strengths. Ofsted also noted:

- Good quality care, support and guidance in an orderly learning environment.
- Student welfare lies at the heart of the school.
- Positive relationships in an inclusive, friendly, community atmosphere.

As a parent of four school aged children myself, I know how important comments like these will be to yourselves as parents and carers. I look forward to working with you in the coming months and years to ensure your son/daughter achieves at the highest level possible and so has the best chance of success in their future life. There is a wealth of research which shows that to be a success, schools and students need the support of parents. Along with regularly talking to your son/daughter about their school work and making sure they are working hard and concentrating in lessons, it is important you encourage them to have outstanding levels of attendance and punctuality.

The punctuality of some of our students is an area of concern at present. A number of them are arriving late for school or lessons. This means that vital learning time can be lost for all students. Punctuality is something that we are asked to comment on in all student references and insisting that students are on time prepares them best for the working world. Therefore, as from this week, our Heads of House will be holding detentions at lunch time for those students who have been late for school. I would ask parents to please be supportive of this and ensure that your child is on their way to school in plenty of time, as I know many of our parents already do.

Our **Year 11 students** will be commencing their final GCSE examinations in the coming days. Your support in ensuring your son/daughter knows when their exams are and that they have revised properly for

Headteacher Mr R J Barnes, BA, NPQH

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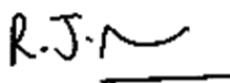


them will greatly aid their chances of success in these potentially life changing tests. All Year 11 students have been issued with exam timetables and another copy is enclosed for those of you who have children in this year group. Many **Year 10 students** will also have modular GCSE exams.

We have a Parents' Evening next Monday (14 May) for our **Year 7 students** from 5pm in the school hall. You will have an opportunity to meet all your son/daughter's teachers to discuss their progress over the course of this year. I will also be available to speak to parents on the evening. There is an additional opportunity for all parents/carers to meet me to discuss the progress of the school at the school's **Parent Council Meeting on Tuesday 12 June** at 7pm in PS9. I would welcome the opportunity to meet as many of you as possible at this event.

This is an exciting time to be part of the Fleetwood High School community, I look forward to meeting you and working with you over the coming months.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. J. Barnes', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

R J Barnes
Headteacher