

21 June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this finds you well.

In my previous letter, I alluded to some changes in staffing in the Academy. We are in a tremendously fortunate position of having a very loyal and stable staff team, and I am pleased to say this remains the same for the next academic year. However, there are some changes, in particular to the leadership team.

In St. Michael's, with humility, we are regarded as an Academy which demonstrates exceptional standards in inclusion, safeguarding and the care of each of our students. The Local Authority have praised our work, and Clare Mahoney, Vice Principal for Safeguarding & Pastoral, has been working with the schools across Stockton Local Authority in the promotion and development of the highest standards of pastoral provision for our young people. Accordingly, Clare has been offered an opportunity to lead this work across the Local Authority and, consequently, she will be joining Stockton Local Authority as an Advisor for Inclusion & SEN.

Clare's work at St. Michael's has been both remarkable and outstanding, and she has truly helped shape the Academy. She has been a close colleague to me, and we have enjoyed a very successful professional relationship which has benefited the students that we serve. We will miss her greatly, but I know that this new post offers her the professional development she has sought. Her new role with the Local Authority will mean that her links with St Michael's will remain strong, and we will be working further in partnership.

We will be saying a fond farewell to Clare next Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June, and I have spoken with all the students with regard to her leaving. There will be ample opportunity for students to thank Miss Mahoney on Friday. Her contribution to St. Michael's will always be greatly treasured.

In addition, Catherine Hammill, Director of Teaching & Learning, has been promoted to the Deputy Headship of St Joseph's School, Hebburn. Mrs Hammill joined us in 2015 and has made positive transformational changes to English alongside whole-school Teaching & Learning. I would like to thank her for the distinctive excellence which she has brought to her work. We will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Hammill at the end of the term.

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Helen Keough as Vice Principal. She is a person of great personal warmth and integrity, and I have worked closely with her in her work as School Improvement Lead for Carmel Education Trust. She combines the skills required for raising standards and nurturing the pastoral care of the students we serve. Mrs Keough will be joining St. Michael's from September, and I am very sure that you will warmly welcome her.



Create an e-elert account on our website to keep up with the news at school

We will be welcoming Mrs Louise Dennis who will be leading the teaching of Drama and bring her outstanding skills to the English Department to replace Mrs Hammill.

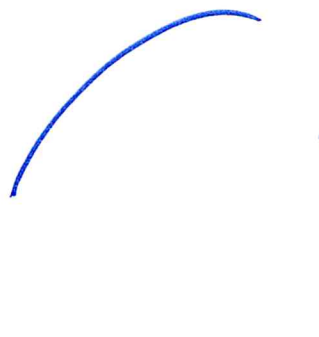
I am highly confident in our staff team for the future, and I look forward to nurturing the newly-revised leadership team over the next 12 months. We are recruiting an additional pastoral leader, and I will write to you before the end of term to introduce you to the successful candidate.

Thank you so much for your continued partnership, and our commitment to the highest standards of behaviour, pastoral care and academic outcomes remains brighter than ever.

With all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Ramsey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

**Andrew Ramsey**  
**Principal**

A large, blue ink flourish or scribble that starts with a curved line and ends with a small dot. It is positioned to the right of the signature.