



26<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Families

**Re: Meet the Head, Thursday 6th July**

I am honoured to be taking on the role of Headteacher and joining the John Mason School team in September. Having lived in the Abingdon community for over 10 years I look forward to serving a fantastic community which my family and I are proud to call our own.

I will join John Mason School from Aylesbury Vale Academy, having spent the last 21 years working in a diverse range of schools across Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Nottinghamshire. As well as making good levels of progress, I believe education should enable every student to develop the skills they will need to become independent lifelong learners and provide them with a wide range of opportunities to experience success both as individuals and as part of a team. This principle will be close to my heart as I join a new team and lead John Mason School into its next phase.

On Transition Day I will get the chance to meet the families of our rising Year 6s who will be joining us in September. As usual, I will be running a series of Parent Information Evenings for each year group early in the new school year.

In the meantime I wanted to take the opportunity to meet existing families as well, and so in place of our Parents' Forum, I would like to invite you to meet with me on **Thursday 6th July**.

This will give me the opportunity to tell you a little bit about myself as well as providing some information about what students can expect in their first days in September. It will also give us a chance to look forward to the exciting opportunities to come throughout the rest of 2023-24.

In order to give as many families as possible the chance to attend, there will be two talks:

- Year 7 and 8 at **6.00pm**
- Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 at **6.40pm**

Space will be limited so please help us to plan by completing the booking form to give us an idea of numbers:  
[Booking Form](#)

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at these events and start our work together ensuring your children get the best possible education and opportunities in their remaining time at John Mason School.

Kind regards

Alastair West  
Headteacher-designate, John Mason School

