

# Gartree High School

Ridgeway, Oadby, Leicester, LE2 5TQ



2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

Dear parents and carers,

September is here, with all of the optimism and promise that the new academic year brings. I would like to extend a very warm 'welcome' to all of you.

The school has been a vibrant hub of activity this week, as we welcomed students back to school. Whatever their age or their year group, each and every one has a part to play in our school community. Well done to all of those Year 9 students who have taken on leadership roles and responsibilities throughout the school. They have already played a significant role supporting Year 6 through their first days of secondary school.

I hope you have enjoyed a lovely summer. Perhaps you were inspired by the Olympic athletes in Rio? I know I spent many hours in awe of the sports men and women from across the globe demonstrating their obvious talent, dedication and commitment to their sport. Even before the closing ceremony, teams and individuals were dreaming of Tokyo 2020. Plans, preparation and expertise on every level are being put in place in readiness for an event taking place in four years. In a similar way, it is hard to imagine that our Year 6 students will be starting their GCSE courses in 2020. Nevertheless, I am acutely aware that the input we have today will have a huge impact in the future, which is why we are prioritising our secondary curriculum plan to take students through to GCSE success without any breaks or transitions. The knowledge, understanding and skills we are working on now will build towards GCSE success.

I am extremely excited about the future at Gartree High School. This year we are developing a range of practices and facilities to ensure we have excellence throughout KS3 and KS4. We start the new academic year with a piercing clarity that we will be an exceptional 11-16 school, with an inspiring KS4 that will take our students through to the GCSE success they deserve.

## Key developments 2016-17

- Refined assessment practice through mastery learning and assessment
- Student core skill development
- Five year secondary curriculum continuum
- Adapting the Year 9 experience - GCSE readiness and coverage of GCSE content
- An upper school social environment
- Dance studio
- Catering and cafeteria improvements
- Landscaping and social space outdoors
- Improved home –school communication through a GHS app

These are just some of the improvements students can expect in the coming months.

Once again, a warm welcome to all those associated with Gartree High School. Have a great year!

Yours sincerely,

Sonia Singleton  
Headteacher

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