



HAGLEY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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Website: www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk

Principal: Mr J Hodgson



Archdiocese of Birmingham

19 January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers of pupils in Year 5 and 6 at St Ambrose

I hope my letter finds you all well and that in this terrible period of time you and your family are managing to cope with the restrictions that are in place, the demands of home learning and taking care of your general wellbeing.

I have taken the time today to write to you as families of one of our feeder/Multi Academy Schools. The pandemic has significantly reduced the opportunities typically available to all of us to work together and collaborate face to face.

In addition, opportunities to visit schools and truly weigh up the options available for your child's secondary education has reduced, and while we were fortunate to be able to hold an open morning back in October 2020, and have 150 families join us on that morning, for many of you it may not have been possible due to the pandemic.

Hence my reason for writing and introducing myself formally to you and making you aware of the secondary provision that we have available to families thinking of sending their children to Hagley Catholic High School in September 2021 or 2022. I appreciate that families of children in Year 6 will have already made their choice and application for September, and many of you have selected Hagley. However, I wanted to make those of you who had not aware that there is always an opportunity to reapply to schools after the 1st March allocation of places should you have reconsidered and can get further advice from Mrs L Millard (Admissions Officer) on that from admissions@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk.

This is a truly exciting time for our Multi Academy Company as we will become the larger Emmaus MAC of ten schools in February 2021, which will give us the capacity to share good practice and provision more widely across our schools for the benefit of all our young people. For me personally, I am relatively new in post, having taken over the position of Principal in September 2019, and I am thrilled about the significant plans ahead for site development and educational provision at Hagley. Last September we broadened our educational offer to include more arts and language provision, this coming September we will be opening a new refurbished sixth form block with unique and purposeful space for Sixth Form students and we will soon be going out to tender to develop our transport provision.

In addition, the pandemic, closure of bubbles and now a national lockdown has represented its own challenges. However, unlike a number of other secondary schools we have been able to offer 100% live online teaching in this new lockdown and had begun doing so as early as last June in some years and subject areas. Our ability to do this and offer well developed, well trained staff and experience in online live virtual provision means that as a school we are better prepared than most to be able to adapt to the challenges in front of us and ensure that educational provision remains excellent, which huge numbers of our current families have been quick to write, acknowledge and thank us for.

Furthermore, despite the lack of formal examinations last summer and now again this summer we know that for your child this will likely not be the case in the summers of 2026 and 2027. However, you should be totally reassured by the excellent teaching in place at Hagley that continues to get better and better, the progress well above national average that students with us make and the warm, nurturing and caring pastoral care that all students get ensuring that our students are well behaved, kind and caring young

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people with a strong set of moral values and a purpose to leave Hagley one day and make the world a better place.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter to you. If your child is in Year 6 and you have applied to us, then thank you. You and they will not regret it and we look forward to welcoming your child later this year.

If you have not selected Hagley, then do take the time to rethink and if we can be any help please do contact either myself or Mr Miastowski (Assistant Principal) at rmiastowski@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk who is responsible for admissions and we will be happy to support you or answer any queries.

Finally, if your child is in Year 5 you have till next October to make your decision but please keep an eye out for some of the exciting transition events that we hope to offer, pandemic permitting during the summer term.

More information on admissions to Hagley is available on our website at:
<https://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk/Page/Detail/admissions>

Meanwhile, stay safe and well at this time sure in the knowledge that we are all in this together.

With every good wish, prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



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