



29 August 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I would like to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of the Academy of St Francis of Assisi.

I am looking forward to working closely with you to ensure that your child has the best possible opportunities on their journey through our very special school. I have worked as the Deputy Head of Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School in West Derby for 15 years, so I know this school and the area well. I am excited for this new role and the challenges that it brings.

My expectations are simple. This school will be safe, calm, and orderly. Our students will be happy, polite, and respectful. They will come to school on time every day, wear the correct uniform and be ready to learn with the necessary equipment. Our staff will expect excellent behaviour and they will provide consistent and fair discipline based on a clear code of conduct. Very simply we expect all students to:

- **Attend every day, on time, fully equipped;**
- **Follow instructions from staff, first time, every time;**
- **Listen carefully when the teacher or others are speaking;**
- **Put their hands up and wait for permission to speak;**
- **Always try their hardest – be the best version of themselves;**
- **Stand behind chairs at the end of the lesson and wait to be dismissed in an orderly way.**

This school has great potential. We are already oversubscribed with more applications than places available. It is truly a unique school with a wonderfully diverse community. It is inclusive, and warmly welcomes children of all abilities, cultures, and backgrounds. Everything we do here is underpinned by our students living out our Christian values of: **Ambition, Happiness, Pride, Peace and Reconciliation, and Respect.**

I am sure that you are keen to work with us and support of our school expectations and rules. We want your children to have the highest aspirations and opportunities to flourish and thrive. We want them to leave school as well-rounded, confident, well-adjusted young people, with an awareness of the wider world and a desire to make a positive difference.

I would like to thank Mrs Singleton for all her hard work as Acting Head of School. She will continue as Deputy Headteacher. I would also like to welcome Ms Bleasdale who is joining us as a new Deputy Headteacher from September.

Best wishes and God Bless

Ms Jo Leech  
Headteacher

