



**The South Wolds
Academy
and Sixth Form**

22nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of the school year is finally here and what a year it has been. Starting with bubbles and one-way systems and ending with something on the horizon that feels a lot closer to normality. I know that this has brought many challenges for us all and I would like to thank you for your support over the past 12 months as we have all navigated ever-changing waters together.

At this time of year we say goodbye to those leaving us to pursue other opportunities. Mrs Brewer leaves to take up a new post as Head of Design and Technology, Mr Batstone leaves for science department pastures new and Miss Draisey will be taking up a new role outside of teaching. We also say goodbye to Kayti Wood, our Receptionist and Clerical Assistant, who is moving into the world of accountancy. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for their contributions to the academy. Also, I am pleased to share that we are fully staffed with specialist staff for the new academic year and we look forward to welcoming:

Mrs Hooker	Operations Manager
Miss Chantrey	English
Miss Mitchell	Maths
Ms Nieslony	Philosophy and Ethics
Miss Giugno	Textiles
Mr Reeves	Languages
Miss Georgiou	Languages
Miss Elsworth	Office Administrator
Miss Fraser	Sports Community Attendant

Chair of Governors

The academy's local governing body sees a change of leadership as the existing Chair, Mr Andy Mortimer, has stepped down after leading the governors since 2017. Andy has been wonderful to work with and a committed supporter of the academy through lots of changes, a successful Ofsted inspection and a global pandemic amongst other things! We wish him well spending lots of time with his beautiful new grandchildren. Therefore, I am pleased to share that governors have elected Miss Susan Jaques as our new Chair of Governors. She writes: 'As a former student myself and with a daughter just about to enter year 10 I have a long association with the school. I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Chair of Governors and am looking forward to supporting and working with the Leadership Team. I have seen first-hand how the school community has worked extremely hard to secure outstanding results and witnessed the strong desire across the school to have students that are well equipped for their future aspirations. My experience and skill sets have developed through work both in the commercial and public sectors. I have a strong desire to make a difference and help drive the school to deliver on its ambitions for continuous improvements in its offer. I hope by us all working in collaboration we can make the school the very best it can be.'

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Halina Angus BA (Hons), MA, NPQH Head Teacher

Sarah Brooks B.Sc (Hons) and Carol Shardlow B.Eng (Hons)
Deputy Head Teachers



Music Concert

It was wonderful to be able to gather outside on Monday evening to listen to the talent at South Wolds perform in the annual summer music concert. We were unsure if the event could go ahead but given the beautiful weather and the ability to socially distance outside, we could end the year in an uplifting and celebratory manner. Student performances were absolutely fantastic and some staff star turns were in for good measure, including a guest appearance by Mr Butterworth. A great evening and huge thanks to Mr Manning for organising the event.

Green Flag Award

I am thrilled to share that the hard work of the Eco Council has led to the school being awarded the Eco-Schools' Green Flag Award. Eco-Schools is a seven step framework that thousands of schools, nurseries and colleges around the world use to introduce, manage and complete environmental actions in their organisation and local community. Uniquely, the Seven Steps aim to place young people at the heart of these environmental actions. This approach engages, motivates and empowers young people to care for our planet now and throughout their lifetimes. Having worked successfully through each of the Seven Steps, South Wolds has now received the Eco-Schools' Green Flag accreditation which is international and recognised by organisations such as UNESCO. It is a symbol of a school's commitment to environmental education and I hope you enjoy reading the council's latest newsletter [here](#).

Facilities for hire

Now that the government has moved to Step 4 in its roadmap, we are pleased to offer a full lettings service for the community to use to partake in activities outside of the home. Please use the booking form on our website in the section Contact Us to look at the facilities that are available to hire and we look forward to welcoming you!

Education Recovery

It is hard to second guess what the arrangements for assessment will be next year. Staff have given an incredible amount over the past year to work with students, transitioning them from home back into on site learning and providing some kind of certainty in an environment nationally where there has been none. I know you will appreciate how much time and effort has gone into planning, assessing and marking for our key examination groups this year in the advent of the government changing assessments this year. I can also appreciate that some students may feel anxious or disengaged with future assessments and I would like to bring to your attention a formal consultation regarding proposed changes to GCSE and GCE assessments for those being assessed in 2022. If you and your child (Year 11, 12 and 13s) wish to contribute the link is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/proposed-changes-to-the-assessment-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2022>.

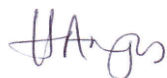
Now is the time for everyone to recharge the batteries and come back in the Autumn term ready to get stuck in with every opportunity presented to learn, revise and recover. Our priority focus on educational recovery will continue across all aspects of our students' experiences from academic to social, building on the work this year that we have all been involved in to support every child. Details of ways in which you can support your child over the summer if you wish can be found [here](#).

Autumn term 2021

Mrs Brooks has already written to you regarding the on site testing that all schools have been asked to roll out on our return in the Autumn. As a reminder, the start of term will be staggered for year groups to facilitate this and these details can also be accessed via the website [here](#). There is no requirement for you to report LFD testing to the school over the summer break.

May I wish you all a pleasant summer break and I look forward to welcoming everyone back safely in September.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'H Angus'.

Halina Angus
Head Teacher