

September 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome back to the new 2023 academic year after what I hope has been an enjoyable and restful summer. It is my privilege to introduce myself to you as the new Head of Year 8. Mrs Sanderson resumes her role as Year 8 Year manager. I look forward to supporting the group and watching them flourish over the coming years.

Please see the list below of the Year 8 form tutors who will continue to support your child at the start of each day and throughout.

Head of Year: Miss N Jones			
Year manager: Mrs T Sanderson			
Form	Tutor(s)	Form	Tutor(s)
8G	Dr. Miles and Ms. Fairbrother	8M	Ms. Budd
8R	Ms. Jackson and Ms. Byrne	8I	Ms. Howell
8E	Mr Kennerly and Ms. Todd	8N	Ms. Carter
8A	Ms. Quinn	8D	Mr. Mushtaq
8T	Mr. Broadbent	8S	Ms. Haslam

Your child has had one year to adjust to life at GAA so will be familiar with the layout of the building and how GAA operates. Students have had time to reflect on Year 7 and I am a firm believer that Year 8 is a fresh start. Many children in the year group will be striving for independence now they are approaching their teenage years. Your child should be encouraged to have their bag and PE kit organised the night before, set their own alarm clock, and check Teams each morning for any relevant messages; it is important that children are encouraged to develop their organisation and communication skills.

Extra-curricular activities are valuable to children developmentally and socially. Future employers look favourably on the skills that children gain from participating in them i.e. team work, resilience, commitment, improving communication skills to name a few. If your child is not currently involved in any, there are many free ones that will be offered at GAA this academic year and I hope that you will support and encourage your child to attend something extra-curricular to enhance their skill set.

The GREAT values are Genuine, Respect, Achieve, Excellence and Together. These values are required in the adult world and enable people to be the best version of themselves. Staff at GAA will continue to reward students with GREAT points on ClassCharts. It also shows any consequences that have been put in place so you can work out what time to expect your child to finish school and arrive home.

The Year 8 team at GAA are looking forward to working with you and your child again this academic year and to support your child to learn, grow and achieve on their academic journey.

As always, please contact the Year 8 team on silverpastoral@gaa.org.uk if you have any concerns or questions.

Yours faithfully,

Miss N. Jones

Head of Year 8

Great Academy Ashton