



Harrow Way Community School

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Acting Headteacher: Mr M Warren

18th July 2012

Dear Parent

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Head Teacher of Harrow Way Community School. I am delighted to have been appointed and will work tirelessly to promote the best interests of all students, staff and the local community. I would like to thank Mark Warren for leading the school over the last year and Charlie Currie for the wonderful job he has done in moving the school forward.

I have been a teacher for over 20 years and been fortunate to have worked in three diverse and inspiring schools in my career. For the last 10 years I have worked as Deputy Head Teacher at Eggar's School in Alton, Hampshire where I also undertook an 18 month temporary post as Associate Head Teacher. In 2009 Eggar's was graded outstanding in all categories by Ofsted and last year we achieved the highest GCSE results and value added score of any school in Hampshire. Since 2005, I have also been a qualified Ofsted inspector and this year was designated a Specialist Leader of Education.

As we have seen in the build up to the London Olympics, it is important to aim high and I intend to take the school even further over the next few years. I believe that high quality teaching and learning is at the heart of every outstanding school and I look forward to working with staff, governors, parents and of course the students at Harrow Way to ensure that they have the best opportunity to be successful in all aspects of their lives. As a parent of two teenage daughters, I understand the concerns and challenges that parents face in the 21st century.

In order to ensure a smooth transition in September, I have visited the school on a number of occasions. Harrow Way Community School has many strengths and I have been struck by the warm welcome and friendly atmosphere. I know how vital partnerships with parents are for children to find school a positive and rewarding experience and strongly believe achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand. I have very high expectations in all areas, especially behaviour and attainment which I hope you will support.

In early September I will be seeking the views of students and parents on how to improve the school even further and in collaboration with staff, will be setting out our key improvement priorities for the next year and beyond. In order to meet as many of you as possible and gather some initial thoughts about our school, I will



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be holding two workshops at the beginning of the new term (details to follow). These sessions will enable me to introduce myself in person and give you the opportunity to discuss school improvement priorities for the next year and beyond.

Harrow Way Community School has tremendous potential and I am very excited about the prospect of leading the school in the next phase of its development. I look forward to meeting you all in the very near future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "M J Serridge". The letters are cursive and connected, with a small dot above the 'i' in "Serridge".

M J SERRIDGE