



## Marden High School

Friday 7th September 2018

Dear All,

We have had an enjoyable week welcoming students and staff back to school for what promises to be an exciting and productive year. Over the summer we had news that our students have once again achieved excellent GCSE exam results, maintaining high standards as one of the top performing schools in North Tyneside. 81% of students achieved 9 – 4 grades in English, 77% in Maths with 71% achieving English and Maths combined, placing Marden High once again amongst the top achieving schools in the area. The majority of students achieved higher than their predicted grades, and 21% of the students got a full grade higher across all of their subjects, a fantastic achievement reflecting their positive attitudes and hard work. We are very proud of the many individual successes students of all abilities achieved, including a large number of the highest grade 9's. The fact that our students have done so well is a great accolade to the efforts of our whole school community of students, staff, parents and carers, and governors.

It has been lovely to see all our year 7 students arrive for their first week. They look very smart and seem to have settled in very well, getting to know classrooms, people and routines as they go along. They have certainly set themselves high standards and we are expecting great things from them all as they progress through the year.

I have spoken before about an 'Etiquette for Success', something we want all of our young people to work on developing during their time here at Marden. This is a very important concept, and can best be described as a blend of communication, presentation and networking skills that can be developed alongside adopting a strong work ethic, strong leadership of self, and awareness of being part of a team. One of the opportunities we have given our students to develop their 'Etiquette for Success', has been through our very successful Girls' Network, and I am pleased to say that next week we have the launch of our Boys' Network, when a number of male business and industry professionals will be coming in to start their work mentoring some of our boys. Look out also for our careers provision being updated on the school website, with lots of exciting events coming up for students to help prepare them for their futures.

At the end of next week we have a group of year 11 students and staff travelling to Switzerland for our annual visit to Cern and the Large Hadron Collider. This promises to be a very interesting and insightful trip to see the wonderful sights and facilities at the European Organization for Nuclear Research, as well as enhancing the students' understanding of particle physics.

Local Democracy Week is coming up and this is a great chance for our students to ask questions to the people in power about things affecting them in North Tyneside. Our students will be thinking about questions that address what they would like to see more of, things that concern them, and things they want to change. We hope to have once again representation at the Young Persons' Question Time, hosted by North Tyneside Council on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October, when our students will get the chance to pose their questions.

We were not surprised to see our new year 7 full, following the interest in the school at our last Open Evening, but nevertheless it is good to know that our student numbers are increasingly healthy, reflecting the standards our students achieve and our consequent popularity. Our next Open Evening is on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, and there will also be the opportunity for prospective parents to come into the school during the day to see us at work.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Snape', written in a cursive style.

Mr M. Snape  
Head Teacher