



# Whickham School and Sports College



Academy Trust

Headteacher: Mr S Haigh BSc

Dear Parent/Carer

9<sup>th</sup> September 2011

It is a delight to welcome your child(ren) to our new academic year. We are very proud of how smart they look in their new school uniform and how well they have settled into their learning.

Our Year 11 and 13 students last year achieved some outstanding results, breaking records and setting new standards for everyone to aim to surpass. They thoroughly deserve the congratulations they have received. It is just reward for their hard work and determination and reflects the support of their families and teachers. It was particularly pleasing to see so many students achieve the highest grades, with over 40% of the Year 13 grades being A\* or A, enabling students to progress to the courses and universities they were aiming for.

Our desire to be the centre of excellence our students deserve has led to the granting of Academy Status from the first of September this year. We are now in a position to accelerate the realisation of the school vision and implement the strategies that will benefit your children. Some of these changes will be obvious and immediate whilst others will take more time to develop. In October we will have the opportunity to submit our own bid as an Academy for a new school building, for which we always remain hopeful and optimistic. Our new website and twitter will provide regular updates on what is happening in school and the changes we are making.

We are always looking to actively involve parents in the decisions we make through groups like our Parents Forum, which meets every half term. As an Academy we also have vacancies for up to six parent governors available for those parents who are prepared to contribute to the strategic leadership of the school. Details and nomination forms are available from the school website.

The year ahead is set to be one of the most exciting in Whickham School's history, which is very apt in the light of our 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary celebrations. Thank you again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Steve Haigh  
Headteacher

Whickham School, Burnthouse Lane, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 5AR

Telephone: 0191 496 0026 Fax: 0191 488 0968 email: [whickhamschool@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:whickhamschool@gateshead.gov.uk) [www.whickhamschool.org](http://www.whickhamschool.org)

