

WH/RNM



Clifford Moor Road  
Boston Spa  
West Yorkshire  
LS23 6RW

2 September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope the summer has treated you and your families well, and that your daughters and sons are ready to join us on Monday.

### **EXAM RESULTS**

We have had an outstanding summer as regards our examination results, and our candidates have distinguished themselves from Year 9 up to Year 13, giving the school its best ever results.

### **SIXTH FORM**

Our 2016 Sixth Form results confirm our place as one of the highest achieving schools in the locality. 25% of our results were awarded at the top grades of A\* or A, 50% at A\*, A or B and, most importantly, over 94% achieved a university place of their choice, including Oxbridge, London, Durham, York and Edinburgh.

Our 'Level 3 Value Added' measure for Sixth Forms is significantly positive, indicating that students from Boston Spa School make more progress from their starting point than is expected.

### **YEAR 11**

In the familiar benchmark of '5 GCSEs at A\* to C including English and Maths' the school scored 67%, which is over 10% higher than the average for schools in Leeds.

Over 20% of Year 11 achieved 5 or more A and A\* grades, 13% achieved 8 or more top grades and 10 students achieved a clean sweep of top grades across 11 subjects. 73% of all GCSEs were graded at A\* to C and 23% of all grades were awarded at A\* or A.

70% achieved both English and Maths in the new 'Threshold' measure, with 81% achieving A\* to C in English (compared with 52.3% nationally) and 75% achieving Maths at A\* to C (61.3% nationally).

In the new 'Progress 8' measure the school has a significantly positive score, indicating, as with the Sixth Form, that students at Boston Spa School make more than expected progress from their starting point compared with their peers.



## **YEAR 10**

Year 10 took one, two or three GCSEs in a combination of Science, Statistics and Philosophy and Ethics. Across the three subjects they achieved an impressive 75% at A\* to C, with 25% of results at A\* or A. With their Year 9 option from 2015, there are many starting Year 11 with as many as four GCSEs at A\* to C.

## **YEAR 9**

Year 9 also distinguished themselves in their GCSE option achieving 64% at A\* to C, with 17% of grades at A\* and A.

We have very much enjoyed celebrating these results on our results days; it was lovely to see the joy across our families and across so many age groups. It has been a good year for the school, but none of the above has been achieved in isolation. These impressive results have been earned on a foundation of the partnership we have with our families; we are appreciative of the support you have for us and are pleased to see its impact in the achievement of our young people.

## **NEW STAFF**

Our staff have already started the new school year with two training days this week. We were pleased to welcome seven new members of teaching staff. In Maths Miss Joshi returns, after successfully completing her teacher training with us; Miss Baxter joins the English team; Mr McKernan joins us to teach Business Studies and Economics and Mr Ferguson takes up the leadership of RE. Science welcome three new colleagues, Mr Shaw, Mr Robinson and Mr Trevor-Biddle. We have recruited well and are excited to add to the strength of our staff team.

## **START OF TERM**

Term starts on Monday for year groups 7 to 11 and year 13 at 8.45. Year 12 start on Tuesday. After a good summer we enter the new school year with confidence, and look forward to exceeding the success of 2016 in 2017.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely



CHRISTOPHER WALSH  
Headteacher