



# Morton Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

MMCL/KR

14<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to introduce myself to those of you I have not yet met and to confirm that I am currently serving as Interim Principal of the Academy. Having been at the Academy for over 14 years, it is a privilege to be leading during this period, and I am committed to ensuring continuity, consistency, stability, and high expectations. My roles within the Academy have always been student orientated and I therefore feel this stands me well in terms of developing students further.

As part of this, it is vital that the Academy continues its journey towards, "Nurturing kind and responsible young citizens who care for their community and who are committed to bettering themselves". In simple terms, the focus of everything considered will always be to ensure the best is achieved for students.

On this note, I would like to share an important recent development. This term, the Academy is launching a renewed focus centred around character virtues that underpin the culture and values of the Academy: Respect, Resilience, and Responsibility.

These character virtues are central to expectations of how students conduct themselves, how they approach their learning, and how they interact with each other in the community. Furthermore, these character virtues will prepare students for future life and their respective journeys ahead:

- Respect is displaying regard for others, their opinions, and their beliefs, encompassing respect for self, members of staff, students, and the wider community.
- Resilience is having the ability to bounce back from challenges and setbacks, maintain a positive mindset, and persevere in the learning journey.
- Responsibility involves taking ownership of one's actions and consequences, demonstrating reliability, trustworthiness, and accountability.

I ask for your support in reinforcing these values, as the partnership between the Academy and families is vital in helping students develop strong character alongside other aspects of success. There are firm processes in place to acknowledge and reward students for being caught demonstrating these character virtues. Additionally, there are now more opportunities than ever for students to be acknowledged through 'Weekly Stars', with a Senior Leader allocating one every lesson, every day.

I am aiming to communicate several further developments over the coming weeks, all of which seek to improve students' experiences of being enrolled at the Academy. However, I would like to address communication and the use of social media. From time to time, information about the Academy may appear anonymously on social media. This can often contain incomplete, inaccurate, or misleading information and can cause unnecessary concern.

The Academy strongly encourages that there never be a reliance on anonymous social media information relating to the Academy. If you have questions, concerns, or require clarification, please contact the Academy directly. Additionally, official communication will continue to be shared through established channels only.

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Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to working closely with you as we continue to build a positive, respectful, and ambitious community within the Academy.

Yours sincerely,

Mike McClelland  
Interim Principal