



Alder Community High School

A Specialist Maths and Computing College

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Thursday, 22nd September 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: MFL department

As you may be aware, the Modern Foreign Languages Department at Alder has recently undergone some major staffing changes. We are proud to announce that we now have a totally new department, with three new teachers and a Curriculum Tutor, who will be working alongside staff and students to ensure progress in learning.

I am Curriculum Leader for Languages, and have been working here at Alder since the start of the summer term. Prior to working here, I was Head of Department at New Charter Academy in Ashton-under-Lyne, and worked there for ten years. Miss Conroy is our Assistant Curriculum Leader; she has spent a year teaching at Mount St Mary's in Leeds, and before this spent two years in the Cayman Islands teaching French and Spanish to secondary school children. Before joining us at Alder, Miss Gough spent a year teaching at Kingsway School in Cheadle, and prior to this spent two years at Stockport Academy. Mrs Thorley is our Curriculum Tutor and she has been working at Alder since 2010. Mrs Thorley holds a B.A Honours degree in French and Spanish and will provide assistance and support to students within their language lessons.

We are trying extremely hard to raise the profile of language learning within Alder, and are hoping to improve attainment with new schemes of work, reward schemes and language trips abroad. Next March, for example, we are operating a trip to France for the current Year 8s, Year 10s and Year 11s, and will be looking at arranging a trip to Spain soon.

We hope that we can rely on your support in encouraging your child to engage with language lessons and to achieve their very best. Whilst we understand that learning a foreign language can be sometimes difficult, it is nonetheless a worthwhile and rewarding skill and ability to have. Exciting times are ahead for the Modern Foreign Languages Department!

If you have any queries or would like to discuss the progress of your child, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely

G Bates (Mrs)