

22nd November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to provide you with an important update regarding the Headteacher position at Melton Vale Sixth Form College. As you know, after 6 very successful years of Headship, our former Head of College, Kirstie Johnson left us at the beginning of September. Kirstie had done an excellent job in steering MV16 through the pandemic, ensuring that students continued to thrive in a college where hard work and kindness permeates every aspect of school life. We were then exceptionally lucky to have Mrs. Natasha Roberts, our current Assistant Headteacher, quickly step up for the first half term as interim Head of College. The college continues to remain as popular as ever thanks to Kirstie, Natasha's and the wider college teams' efforts and guidance through these changes.

Throughout this interim period, we went out to interview for our a new Headteacher and we are delighted to announce the appointment of Nicki Dartnell (currently Deputy Headteacher at Hills Road Sixth Form College, Cambridge) to the position of Headteacher at MV16 from Easter 2023. Nicki brings extensive FE leadership experience to the college and has a strong track record of success across a number of areas of school leadership. We are very much looking forward to Nicki starting with us at Easter as we continue to strengthen MV16 as an outstanding community college for all.

Until Nicki is able to begin in post at Easter, I will be standing as acting Headteacher for MV16. I am very fortunate to be joining an excellent leadership team and will continue to be supported by Natasha Roberts as Assistant Headteacher, but also Ms. Laura Procter who will be acting up as Assistant Headteacher until Easter. Having previously worked alongside Kirstie and Natasha, I am lucky to already know the college well in my primary role as Director of Safeguarding and Inclusion for Nova Education Trust. As a former Headteacher and having held a number of Senior Leadership positions across the South, I bring a wealth of experience which I hope will complement the existing team and allow the college to continue to thrive and grow.

Our mission for all students at MV16 is to educate the young people of Melton Mowbray and the surrounding area, through a curriculum that is rich in academia and personal development. This is achieved through inspirational teaching by experienced, subject specialists who in engage students in an ambitious curriculum which is purposefully designed to meet local need. Alongside high-quality teaching, students can expect to be guided and cared for by teaching staff who have wellbeing and care at the heart of the classroom. In turn, students establish a real connection at Melton Vale and respond in an independent, mature manner, achieving their ambitions and broadening their horizons.

To successfully achieve these ambitions, it is important that staff, school governors and our parents share the same vision for what we want our young people to achieve and become. With this in mind, I would like to share the outcome of that work with you: Our vision is for every learner within our vibrant and diverse college community to experience transformative academic and personal growth and allows learners to embark on a journey that stimulates them intellectually, develops them socially and is personally transforming as they plan for their next steps into adulthood.

Myself and all of the staff at Melton Vale Sixth Form College are excited about the year ahead and we look forward to sharing the many achievements of your children with you.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms. Leah Miller
Acting Headteacher