

7th September 2017

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

May I welcome you back to the new academic year. I hope you've had a great summer break and feel rested and ready for the new term ahead.

On exam results days, I had the immense pleasure of welcoming our Year 11 and Year 13 students to collect their hard-earned GCSE and A level qualifications. These special days are always such a privilege to experience and share with our students. This year was no exception with school records broken across the board.

Our A Level results were the best in 17 years with exceptional grade scores across the board.

GCSE achievements were equally impressive with every student making phenomenal progress and achieving personal goals. Congratulations!

Congratulations must also go to Year 10 and Year 12 students as they all secured qualifications too. I have nothing but sheer admiration for the work ethic, determination and self-efficacy of our students and to our staff team for their skills and support.

As a forward thinking and innovative school nothing stands still. Our over-arching passion and commitment is always to supporting others and sharing what we do best to help all young people in education make their one chance of education the very best it can be!

I feel enormously privileged to move into the role of CEO of Northern Star Academies Trust (NSAT) and Executive Headteacher of Skipton Girls' – this new role and challenge will indeed enable us as an organisation to achieve our goals and strengthen school improvement across the North region.

I am delighted that **Mrs Andrea Wade has become Head of Academy** (Acting) for the next twelve months. Mrs Wade brings a wealth of leadership experience and expertise to this role, ably-supported by a talented and dedicated staff team.

Finally, I would like to emphasise the importance we place on **safeguarding** our students within an open, caring and trusting community in the school. Can I re-iterate and reassure all students, parents and carers that if they have any concerns relating to any aspects of school life, they can approach myself, Mrs Wade or the Senior Leadership Team and matters will be dealt with in an appropriate and confidential manner.

Here's looking forward to an enjoyable and productive school year.

With best wishes,

Mrs J Plews

CEO/Executive Headteacher
Northern Star Academies Trust
Skipton Girls' High School

