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Headteacher/Prifathro: M. J. Stephens NPQH, P Dip Ed, BA (Hons)

Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Brifathrawes: A. O'Brien NPQH, BSc Deputy Headteacher/Dirprwy Brifathrawes: C-A. Painter BA (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have enjoyed the festive break with family and friends.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Porthcawl Comprehensive School. It is a privilege to lead this wonderful school and I look forward to working with everyone across the school community as we move into 2023.

I must pay tribute to and thank Mr Slade for his time during the autumn term. Our regular contact has ensured a smooth headteacher transition. I have been able to keep up to date with important information, attend after school events and plan for the spring term. I am looking forward to continuing to build upon the success the school has already achieved under Mr Slade's leadership, and I would like to wish him the very best for the future.

To provide a short introduction, over the last 20 years I have worked in three different schools across three local authorities, and I arrive at Porthcawl Comprehensive School having been a school leader in Bridgend for the last ten years. Taking up this post is an honour and the school's longstanding motto of 'Perseverance Creates Success' is something that really resonates with my values. My aim is that every pupil fulfils their potential through a wide range of learning experiences underpinned by excellent teaching and outstanding care, support and guidance.

High standards and expectations are at the heart of what I do. My vision for outstanding education is driven by an ethos of 'can-do' where every pupil feels secure, finds fulfilment through their love of learning and achieves their potential through a broad and balanced curriculum that does not cap aspiration, it drives it! I want our pupils to become passionate and creative problem solvers, ready to thrive in the adult world. I want them to be ambitious, enterprising and inventive. I want them to develop confidence, resilience and resourcefulness and most importantly I want them to feel safe, supported and guided.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Mr Robert Aldridge who joins us from Mary Immaculate High School in Cardiff. He has taken up the post of Assistant Headteacher: Director of Studies where he will lead on the design, development and delivery of the new curriculum and ensure excellent standards of learning & teaching – welcome Mr Aldridge. The school's senior leadership team is now structured as:

Mr M. Stephens, Headteacher

Mrs A. O'Brien, Deputy Headteacher

Miss C-A. Painter, Deputy Headteacher

Miss K. Owens, Assistant Headteacher: Director of Planning and Communications

Mrs S. James, Assistant Headteacher: Director of Progress **Mr R. Aldridge**, Assistant Headteacher: Director of Studies

Mrs K. Poole, Secondee to SLT

I look forward to strong partnerships between parents, carers and the school. As you know this is especially important in enabling children to achieve success and so I ask for your full support of school policies and for your continued proactive involvement in your child's education.

I look forward to meeting you throughout 2023.

Kind regards,

Mike Stephens

Mr Michael Stephens

Headteacher