



Berwick Middle School

Lovaine Terrace Berwick upon Tweed Northumberland TD15 1LA

Headteacher: Mr Ben Ryder

Tel & Fax: 01289 306140

Email: Admin@berwick.northumberland.sch.uk Website: www.berwickmiddleschool.org.uk



BR/SMF

15 January 2018

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to wish you a Happy New Year and to introduce myself as the new headteacher at Berwick Middle School. I am immensely proud to have joined this fantastic school and I am looking forward to working with pupils, staff, parents, governors and the wider community to ensure that the school is outstanding in every area.

As a teacher and a father to two boys I am very much aware of the importance that education plays in shaping the lives of young people and I seek to work with parents and carers to help provide the very best opportunities for every single pupil at Berwick Middle School. I wish the same for every pupil at Berwick Middle as I do of my own children:

- To be safe, happy and healthy
- To be treated as an individual
- To experience educational excellence no matter what their starting point
- To develop a love of learning and the skills to be able to unlock future learning
- To experience opportunities to broaden their understanding and ability to cope with the world around them...its people, places and challenges
- To develop ambition and resilience to achieve their dreams
- To develop confidence and an ability to articulate themselves to demonstrate their best traits

I am very fortunate as the school has a dedicated team of staff and under the leadership of my predecessor Derryth Hope, achieved fantastic outcomes for the young people of Berwick. In December the school was graded as 'Good' by Ofsted, who commented that:

'The school has a friendly and hardworking environment and pupils are taught very well across a range of different subjects.'

'Teaching continues to improve...and is consistently strong across the school.'

'Pupils' attitudes to their learning are exemplary'

'Staff work hard to ensure that pupils access a well-rounded education and a wide range of extra-curricular activities'



It is my aim to build on and enhance these strengths to ensure that every pupil in the school can be the very best that they can be. Middle schools provide the best of all worlds; they are small enough to ensure that we treat each pupil as an individual in a caring and supportive environment but are able to offer specialist teaching and facilities that pupils in other schools would not have access to.

I value the importance of the school's relationship with parents and carers. There are a number of opportunities available for parents to become involved in the life of the school as a governor or as part of the Berwick Middle Parents, Teachers and Friends Association. In addition to this I will be starting a parents' forum that will provide an opportunity to share views and concerns with the school. In the first instance I would like to invite parents and carers to make an appointment with me at the upcoming parents evening on Wednesday 7 February from 3.45pm to 6.00pm if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education at Berwick Middle School. Appointments can be made through Parent Mail along with other bookings.

I look forward to meeting you and working in partnership to ensure the very best education for your child.

Yours sincerely

Ben Ryder
Headteacher

