



Brownhills Ormiston Academy

Deakin Avenue, Brownhills, Walsall,
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Principal: Mr R T Doodson

RDO/SY/PLET108J

5th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

BOA Pastoral Support: Important Update for 2026–27

I am writing with an important update about our pastoral structure for 2026–27. Our school values of ready, respect and safe describe the culture we build together, in partnership with families. We all know that your child has one chance at their secondary education and we all share a duty to make it count, equipping every pupil with the qualifications, skills and attributes to enjoy a life of genuine choice and opportunity. That ambition depends on a strong home–school partnership.

Our Commitment to Knowing Every Child

Brownhills Ormiston Academy has long held a reputation for knowing its pupils well. The changes I refer to in this letter build on that strength, ensuring individual guidance, strengthening our safeguarding culture and ensuring every child's wellbeing remains central to all we do.

To allow pupils and families time to build relationships before September, year groups will move to their new pastoral leaders on Tuesday 16th June 2026.

Strategic and Senior Pastoral Leadership

Mr J McGlynn, Deputy Headteacher, retains overall strategic responsibility for behaviour, culture and attendance, leading and supporting the pastoral team described in this letter.

Mrs R Chaplin, Senior Deputy Headteacher, continues as our dedicated SENDCO and lead for inclusion. Mrs Chaplin is now also an access arrangements assessor, further strengthening support for pupils who need it most.

Mr J Shaw, Director of Safeguarding and Wellbeing, is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and a key member of our senior leadership team. Mr Shaw ensures our safeguarding culture is robust, vigilant and caring. Families can be assured that every concern is acted upon swiftly and that this responsibility is in expert hands. Mr Shaw is supported by Mrs Chaplin as Deputy DSL and by our Heads of Year, who are all members of the safeguarding team, embedding safeguarding awareness at every level of our pastoral structure.

Mrs J Mitchell, Associate Assistant Headteacher, continues to have leadership responsibility for Personal Development. Mrs Mitchell will oversee PSHE & Citizenship, pupil leadership, pupil voice, enrichment, wider opportunities and trips and visits.



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Promotions to the Senior Leadership Team

I am delighted to announce two richly deserved promotions.

Mr A Reed joins the senior leadership team as Associate Assistant Headteacher, taking responsibility for the day-to-day leadership of behaviour across the academy. Mr Reed will line manage our Heads of Year and will be the key contact for families on behaviour matters, including standards, routines, rewards and sanctions, and punctuality. Mr Reed will also serve as Achievement Director for Year 7. Families familiar with liaising with Mr McGlynn about behaviour matters will now often work with Mr Reed in the first instance.

Mrs J Adams joins the senior leadership team as Senior Leader for Key Stage 4 and Careers, leading all matters in Years 10 and 11 and taking responsibility for careers education across the school. Mrs Adams will be the Achievement Director for Years 10 and 11.

A New Role: Heads of Year

Our Pastoral Support Leaders (PSLs) will now become Heads of Year, with dedicated responsibility for the behaviour, attendance, safeguarding and wellbeing of their year group. Your child's Head of Year will know them as an individual — their strengths, challenges and personal needs — and will work closely with families throughout. Our Heads of Year for 2026–27 are:

2026-27	Leader	Notes
Head of Year 7	Mr A Cox	Joining September 2026
Head of Year 8	Mr K Watson	
Head of Year 9	Miss J Glover	
Head of Year 10	Mrs R Rathbone	
Head of Year 11	Miss V Hobday	

We warmly welcome Miss Hobday, who joined BOA on 18th May 2026, and Mr Cox, who we look forward to joining us in September.

Mr Watson, Miss Glover, Mrs Rathbone and Miss Hobday will take over their new year groups on Tuesday 16th June 2026. To support continuity, Heads of Year will move through school with their cohort — so Mr Watson, for example, will take the current Year 7 now in readiness for being their Head of Year in Year 8.



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Achievement Directors: Academic Success

Colleagues previously known as Heads of Year will move into the vital role of Achievement Director, focusing on the academic life of their year group: tracking progress, ensuring quality of education, promoting literacy and reading, developing character and pupil leadership, and supporting home learning and assessment preparation. They will champion pupil voice and keep families closely informed about their child's academic journey.

The clear separation of the pastoral Head of Year and the academic Achievement Director means every pupil benefits from two dedicated professionals working in close collaboration.

Our Achievement Directors for 2026–27 are:

2026-27	Leader	Notes
Achievement Director – Year 7	Mr A Reed	Also Associate Assistant Headteacher - Behaviour
Achievement Director – Years 8 & 9	Mr A Queensborough	
Achievement Director – Years 10 & 11	Mrs J Adams	Also Senior Leader Careers

I would like to thank Mrs P Zaric and Mr F Nhanak for their many years of dedicated service as Heads of Year. They have both chosen to step down from these leadership positions but remain at Brownhills as experienced and committed teachers of English and French respectively.

Further Key Roles

Miss B Parsons takes on the new role of Reset Room Manager, providing a structured and supportive environment for pupils needing additional behavioural guidance and support.

Miss R Plant remains Assistant SENDCO, overseeing day-to-day SEND support alongside our outstanding team of teaching assistants.

Mrs J Edwards continues in the ARC (Academic Resilience Centre), delivering targeted programmes such as Strengthening Minds for pupils who may require additional support.

Mrs P White is our dedicated Attendance Officer. Mrs White plays a crucial role in supporting pupils to secure excellent attendance so that they can enjoy school and make strong academic progress.

Mrs R Downen is our Pastoral Administrator, who will often be in contact with families to support the work of the pastoral leadership team and strengthen communication with parents and carers.



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Mrs S Yates, Mrs H Thompson-Giles, Mrs T Goodwin and Mr N Khan are our colleagues in the Operations Hub, who are often the first line of contact for families, especially with attendance and general queries.

Our team of Personal Tutors, focused on the individual development, wellbeing and academic growth of each child, continue to underpin every element of this structure.

Working Together for Your Child

We want every family to feel confident that your child is well known, genuinely cared for and actively supported at Brownhills. The relationship between home and school is one of the most powerful forces in any child's life and we value your support.

I hope that this letter serves to show you the number of people dedicated to pastoral care in our school. I also know that the vital role of Achievement Director will strengthen academic standards for all pupils.

Please never hesitate to contact your child's Personal Tutor, Head of Year or Achievement Director.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mr R T Doodson
Headteacher