



THE ECCLESBOURNE SCHOOL

'Learning Together For The Future'

Head Teacher
James McNamara BA(Hons); NPQH

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11 October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to introduce myself as the Head of Pastoral Care and Safeguarding for the school and to explain some of the work that I am doing. As Head of Pastoral Care, I oversee all the Pastoral Leadership Team - this encompasses Lower and Upper School and Sixth Form, the school nurse, attendance officer and pastoral support worker. This means you can contact me about any concerns you may have about your child in relation to safeguarding, attendance and behaviour.

Since September we have:

- Introduced an anonymised reporting tool called Tootoot. This allows students to report any concern they may have and receive support from a member of our pastoral support team. This will help those students who may be reluctant to come forward when they are worried about something. Pupils can download Tootoot as an app or log in directly at <https://tootoot.co.uk/>. All pupils have been given a log-on and username via their school e-mail account.
- Opened new and expanded facilities for pastoral care including a larger medical room, a welfare hub, a quiet meeting space and additional office space for Upper School and the Sixth Form.
- Increased capacity in the pastoral leadership team adding two additional senior members of staff and reducing teaching load.
- Introduction of a welfare hub in addition to the existing pastoral offices. Here trained staff are available every morning from 8.30am until 9.00am. Each lunchtime and after school until 4.30pm apart from Friday.
- Provided students with a list of staffed classrooms should they want quiet time away from the hustle and bustle of the school environment during lunchtimes.
- Recruited a student led group using the support of the national equal rights charity 'Feminista'. This will provide opportunities for students to share their views and to contribute to the school's work on equality and diversity.
- Launched the anti-bullying ambassadors' programme recruiting student leaders from all year groups. Students will receive training from the Princess Diana Trust in November and will work with the pastoral teams to provide peer to peer support.
- Recruited well-being ambassadors who will receive their training before half-term and will help the school promote wellbeing.
- Reviewed the Personal Development and Citizenship scheme of work including new and improved materials and activities related to wellbeing, inclusion and positive relationships.

We will continue to build on this work in the coming months and seek further ways of supporting our students through parent and pupil voice.

If you are concerned about your child and believe they may need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact me so that we can look at support options. I am contactable on either courabi@ecclesbourne.derbyshire.sch.uk or 01332 843274. Alternatively, I will be offering a clinic after the October half-term from 3.00pm till 5.00pm for parents to make appointments to come and see me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clarissa Ourabi'.

Clarissa Ourabi
Deputy Head Teacher
Head of Pastoral Care