

2 July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to be writing to introduce myself, following my appointment as the Interim Executive Headteacher at Medina College. It is a privilege to take up this post and serve the Medina community in this role. I am passionate about the power of education to shape children's lives and look forward to working with you, Phil Pearce-Jones in his role of Head of School, Dave Mumford – Head of the Island VI Form, the Senior Leadership Team, and the dedicated team of staff and Governors to ensure every child feels safe, happy and well-cared for and are provided with the opportunity to develop their individual talents and achieve their aspirations.

I am an experienced leader, having spent 38 years in education in a variety of roles – teacher, Head of Year, Assistant Head in charge of teaching and learning, Curriculum Deputy and Headteacher. In addition to this, I have served as a Chair of Governors at an Island school and Governor in an outstanding Sixth Form College.

As well as working in schools, I have provided external support through my work as a School Improvement Partner and leadership coach for Headteachers and Senior Leaders. During my years of Headship, I am proud to share that the children in the schools I lead achieved excellent outcomes and thrived in a culture of high expectations and support for their learning and personalised needs. During my time as Principal at the Beacon School, the school received a letter from the Secretary of State for Education congratulating the school for being in the top 100 non-selective school for sustained GCSE improvement. In addition, I have shared [here](#), the Ofsted report for my most recent Headship at Hamble in Hampshire, where I was in post between March 2015 and September 2018. I have done this to give you a sense of the skills, drive and ambition I bring to ensure that each and every child at Medina College receives the highest quality education.

I believe students thrive in an environment in which there is high, clear, and consistent expectations of behaviour and uniform and a culture of mutual support and respect. In addition, there needs to be an absolute focus on the quality of the teaching and learning the students receive and how a child's needs are best met. Schools should enable academic success as well as recognise that students learn in different ways.

Providing opportunities beyond the classroom is essential to support academic achievement and enable the students to grow in confidence and to become accomplished young adults. In addition, staff should be enabled to develop professionally and feel empowered and supported to develop their skills as teachers and leaders.

I am joining the College at an exciting time of change, with Medina joining the Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Southampton, and Portsmouth Trust (HISP Multi- Academy Trust). Being part of the Trust will bring a wealth of new opportunities for both staff and students and I look forward to sharing these with you as we move forward.

An effective home-school partnership is a very important factor in every child's educational progress and well-being. With this in mind, I want to share my commitment to building an open and welcoming school culture with you in which we work together, keeping the best interests of your child at the heart of everything.

I very much look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks and months and working with you to support your child's education.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Croke', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Lisa Croke
Interim Executive Headteacher
Medina College (inc The Island VI Form)