



5 February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers of Year 8,

I hope this message finds you well.

As you may be aware, Mr McAllister has been absent from the academy for the past few weeks. During this time, Mr Pryke has kindly stepped in to support Year 8, taking on the Head of Year responsibilities alongside his own role. I would like to express my sincere thanks to him for his hard work and commitment over the last two weeks in ensuring our Year 8 students continued to receive the support they need.

We have now been informed that Mr McAllister will remain absent for at least the remainder of this month. It is important to us that Year 8 continue to have consistent, high-quality pastoral support, while we also maintain our whole-school focus on moving forward and providing the very best for our students.

To ensure this, I am pleased to share that Mr Cooper, our Safeguarding Manager, will be taking on the role of Head of Year 8 until Mr McAllister is able to return. Mr Cooper brings extensive pastoral experience and a strong understanding of our students' needs. I am confident that his leadership will be a real asset to Year 8 during this interim period.

Mr Cooper will work closely with Mr Spurgeon (SSO for Year 8) to maintain high expectations, strong relationships, and robust pastoral support for all students. To enable this transition, Ms Walker will take on additional safeguarding responsibilities, ensuring we continue to uphold the high standards of safeguarding across the academy.

A full handover between Mr Pryke and Mr Cooper will take place tomorrow, ahead of Mr Cooper formally stepping into the role on **Monday 9th February**.

Mr Cooper: [henry.cooper@attrust.org.uk](mailto:henry.cooper@attrust.org.uk)

Mr Spurgeon: [sam.spurgeon@attrust.org.uk](mailto:sam.spurgeon@attrust.org.uk)

If you have any questions or concerns regarding these arrangements, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

James Morris  
Vice Principal