

Dear Year 7 Parent or Carer,

Firstly, I'm so excited to be welcoming you into the Wapping High family as your child joins us in September. We are very proud of our school and as your child's new Headteacher, I am determined to make your child's secondary school experience first class.

Head's of House and senior staff have been in contact with you and sharing information with you to ensure that your child's start at Wapping High goes as smoothly as possible and I'm confident, even with the additional challenges of the COVID lockdown, that we will achieve this and do so safely. Equally, I look forward to meeting with you and working with you in the coming future to ensure that education at Wapping High continues to go from strength to strength.

I am writing this letter to you not only to welcome you but to give you the opportunity to access a new and exciting curriculum offer for your child.

Senior leaders and I have been working with an organisation called the Mandarin Excellence Programme which is sponsored by the DFE and The British Council and for the first time in the school's history, we are introducing Mandarin Chinese as an option for Year 7 learners in September. The programme is designed to encourage young people to eventually pursue a formal qualification in the language.

You are probably aware that Mandarin Chinese is the most widely spoken language in the world and in line with one of our core objectives to broaden young people's horizons I would be delighted if you and your child would be interested in participating in this great opportunity at the school.

You will have read from the prospectus and also from the school's website that our main taught language at school is Spanish and that will continue for all our learners but for those Year 7s beginning on their Mandarin Chinese course of study they will experience a balance of Mandarin Chinese and Spanish in their first two years of secondary school.

Thursday afternoon's Enrichment periods will also be additional opportunities for Mandarin Chinese students to continue their learning but they will constantly be given opportunities to work with next year's language Club to also immerse themselves in a range of different languages as well.

I'm hoping that, as a Year 7 parent next year, you are interested in pursuing this but there are only 20 places available, with that in mind please can you email either myself on [headteacher@wappinghigh.org](mailto:headteacher@wappinghigh.org) or the Senior Assistant Headteacher, Nicolette Sorba on [nicolettesorba@wappinghigh.org](mailto:nicolettesorba@wappinghigh.org) and we will contact you directly to make the arrangements.

Kind regards and once again, welcome to Wapping High School.

Gary Nelson  
Headteacher