

Summer 2021

**Ref: Welcome and the Mandarin Excellence Programme.**

Dear Year 7 Parent or Carer,

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

On our website, Head's of House and senior staff have been sharing information and videos with you to ensure that your child's start at Wapping High goes as smoothly as possible and I'm confident, even with the continuing additional challenges of COVID, 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 as the Governors and I really value your partnership.

I am posting this letter on our website, not only to welcome you, but to remind you of the opportunity we've given your child to access an exciting curriculum offer here at the school.

The school is a proud partner of the Mandarin Excellence Programme which is sponsored by the DFE (Department for Education) and The British Council and, for the first time in the school's history, we introduced Mandarin Chinese as an option for Year 7 learners in September last year. The programme is designed to encourage young people to eventually pursue a formal qualification in the language and has been a huge success so far.

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 our 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 Year 7s also following the Mandarin Chinese course of study will experience a balance of Mandarin Chinese and Spanish in their first two years of secondary school. Incidentally, students taking part in the Mandarin Chinese programme will be invited to take part in an amazing visit to China as part of the course if students decide to continue with their studies into Key Stage 4.

You will be contacted separately by the MFL department here and I'm hoping that you are interested in pursuing this as an opportunity for your child but there are only 20 places available so, with that in mind,

please can you email either myself on: [headteacher@wappinghigh.org](mailto:headteacher@wappinghigh.org) or Ms Ingram on [tiffanyingram@wappinghigh.org](mailto:tiffanyingram@wappinghigh.org) and we will contact you with more information if you are interested.

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

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Nelson', written in a cursive style.

Gary Nelson  
Headteacher