



11th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As I sit to write this final update to you as Head of School at Pakefield High, I find myself reflecting not just on this week, but on the past ten years that I have had the privilege of being part of this wonderful community.

This week has perfectly captured what Pakefield High is all about. Our Charity Week has once again shown the strength of our school community – students and staff coming together to think of others, to raise funds, and to remind us all of the importance of kindness, empathy and collective action. For me, this spirit of togetherness has defined Pakefield from the moment I joined.

Over the past decade, I have seen our school grow and evolve through many changes and challenges. I am incredibly proud of where we stand today: a 'Good' school in the eyes of Ofsted, with improving exam results year on year, and above all, a school that the local community truly believes in. This September, we will welcome 170 new Year 7s – a huge step up from the 88 first choices I received in my first year as Head. This growth shows how far we have come and is a testament to the dedication of our staff, the support of our families, and the energy and ambition of our students.

It is now time for me to pass the baton on. As I prepare to take up my new role as Principal of The Open Academy in Norwich, I do so with immense pride and gratitude for my time at Pakefield. I wish Mr Dougherty every success as the new Head of School. I know he will continue to lead with the same care and commitment that makes this school so special.

Finally, to our parents and carers – thank you for your trust and support over the years. And to our students – you are what makes Pakefield the incredible place it is. Keep working hard, looking out for one another, and aiming high. I will be watching your continued success with great pride.

Looking ahead to September, the school is in a strong position with a balanced budget, and is fully staffed.

Our final day of term is Friday 18th July where school will finish for students at 12.20. This day will also be non-uniform.

With my very best wishes for the future

Mr D Bagshaw
Head of School