



AUTUMN TERM NEWSLETTER



SCHOOL NEWS FRIDAY, 19 DECEMBER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Christmas edition of the school newsletter, showcasing the term's events over what has been another busy period.

As we reach the end of a long autumn term, I want to offer a heartfelt thank you to our students and staff for your continuing hard work, and to families for your support of the school, its staff and its policies.

It seems like a long time ago now, but the term began with the celebration of the previous Year 11 and Year 13's results, which were the best collective results obtained by the school. Year 11 results remained strong, enabling students to go onto their desired next steps, whilst Year 13 results showed the beneficial impact of last year's investment in sixth form, with results improving to significantly above national average in both attainment and progress terms.

Additionally, we welcomed our fantastic new Year 7 cohort to the school in September. The transition to high school went very well and Year 7 have all settled into their classes and our routines admirably.

And alongside this, we have had lots of enriching opportunities for Y7-13 throughout the term, the highlights of which are covered in this letter. These have included performances, an MP visit from Hilary Benn, restart a heart day, and charity fundraising to name but a few.



So, as we approach the Christmas break, we look forward to an opportunity to recharge and see loved ones. And we would also like to say thank you to departing colleagues who are leaving us on maternity leaves, and to Miss McAndrew who is departing Temple Moor to begin a new life in the Falkland Islands.

I hope you all have a restful and merry Christmas, and we look forward to welcoming students back on January 5th.

Yours sincerely,
Mr. M. West
Principal

Contact Us :



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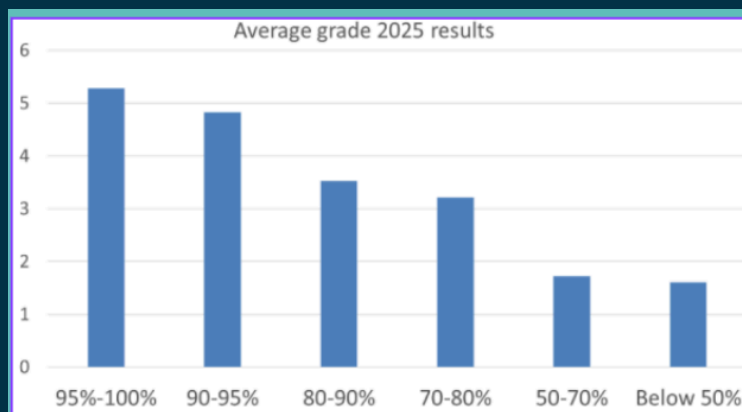


SCHOOL INFORMATION FRIDAY, 19 DECEMBER

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance remains a focus nationally and at Temple Moor, as it is proven to be in children's interest to attend school regularly. Summer's GCSE results proving strong evidence to support this, highlighting the impact that regular attendance to school has on students' outcomes.

The average grade obtained by students in each attendance category is shown below:



This clearly shows that students who are in school 95% of the time, benefit massively from attending, attaining at least a grade higher in every subject they sit. The Progress 8 value of +0.94 means that students make nearly 1 grade more progress than the national average for students.

It also clearly shows the declining outcomes as absence becomes more prevalent. This is because students miss out of the well planned and delivered curriculum, and they accumulate significant gaps in their knowledge.

To support students' outcomes and life chances, the message is clear. Every day in school is an important one, and therefore students should attend unless they

are too unwell to do so. To guide parents in making these decisions, the NHS have set up a website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Holidays in term time are also a significant source of absence and we continue to discourage these being taken due to the impact it has.

Please support the school by ensuring that excellent attendance, above 95%, remains a priority in the new year so that students can be fully supported to achieve their potential.

A huge well done to the 730 students who have an attendance at 95% or better. As the school year progresses, we hope that even more students are able to reach this target and for those currently there, that this can be maintained.

SCHOOL VALUES

CHARACTER I arrive promptly and fully prepared for my lessons with full equipment. I show that I value my education by engaging fully in my learning.	
AMBITION I actively seek and act on feedback to support my progress by engaging in low stakes tests and discussions.	
RESPECT I listen to and independently review a variety of opinions. This helps me come to an informed decision.	
ENDEAVOUR I consistently have high expectations of others and myself, always seeking out opportunities to further my learning and self-development.	

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FREE O2 DATA

The National Databank exists to provide SIM cards for people who can't access the Internet, and works like a food bank but for mobile data.

Over the festive period the national data bank is increasing access by hosting databanks in every O2 store. This means people experiencing difficulties in affording this can access free data. People can receive 25GB of free O2 data per month for 12 months, helping them stay connected to essential services and loved ones. All someone has to do is visit an O2 store to pickup a SIM and they can even keep their original number.

More details can be found here:
<https://www.o2.co.uk/national-databank>

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Today, our school is embracing the festive spirit for a great cause! We're celebrating Christmas Jumper Day to raise funds for Save the Children, an initiative organised by our dedicated Sixth Form Fundraising Committee.

Students and staff are invited to wear their favourite Christmas jumper—or opt for non-uniform—for a minimum donation of £1, payable via Arbor. Every contribution will go directly to Save the Children, helping to make a difference for children around the world.

It's wonderful to see so many bright, cheerful jumpers around school today, spreading festive joy while supporting an important charity. A big thank you to everyone taking part and to the Sixth Form team for organising this event!



FESTIVE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

On Thursday, 11 December, our school came together to celebrate the annual Christmas lunch—and what a wonderful occasion it was!

The dining areas were transformed with beautiful festive decorations, creating a warm and cheerful atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. Our amazing catering team went the extra mile, not only preparing a delicious menu but also spreading Christmas cheer with their festive tops and accessories.

A huge thank you to the catering team for their hard work and creativity in making this event so special. The food was absolutely fantastic, and it was lovely to see students and staff enjoying every bite—including Mr. West, who gave a big thumbs-up to the gluten-free option!

Events like this remind us how important it is to come together and share moments of joy. It was a perfect way to celebrate the season and bring a little sparkle to the school day.





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RESTART A HEART DAY: LIFE-SAVING SKILLS IN ACTION

On 16 October, Temple Moor proudly hosted Restart a Heart Day, a powerful initiative aimed at equipping students with essential life-saving skills. With incredible support from NHS volunteers, including doctors and paramedics, the entire Year 8 cohort received hands-on training in CPR—a skill that could one day save a life.

In addition to learning CPR techniques, students explored:

- Key roles in the emergency services
- Skills and attributes needed for frontline healthcare
- Real-life insights from medical professionals

Our Elect and HCP cohorts of students also took part, deepening their understanding of emergency response and healthcare careers. The event was a powerful reminder of the importance of preparedness, compassion, and community service.



HILARY BENN MP INSPIRES STUDENTS

On 14 November, we welcomed a special guest – Hilary Benn MP.

Hilary delivered two engaging sessions with Year 9 and Sixth Form students, answering questions on politics, leadership, and current affairs. Our students impressed with thoughtful questions on topics ranging from local improvements to global challenges.

After the talks, Hilary toured classrooms and even joined a Year 7 History and Geography lesson, where he was asked about his favourite Antarctic animal! He also met our School Council and Sixth Form Leadership Team, discussing leadership qualities and taking away a student's letter on RAF recruitment policies for follow-up.

Students described the visit as inspiring and valued the opportunity to engage directly with a Member of Parliament.

A huge thank you to Hilary Benn for giving his time and motivating our learners!



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LIVE PERFORMANCES INSPIRE STUDENTS

In October, our school was thrilled to host a series of special live performances for Year 8, Year 9, and Year 10 students.

The talented all-girl group XO brought energy, passion, and powerful messages to Year 9 and 10, creating an unforgettable experience that blended music with meaning. Meanwhile, singer Sammy Angelo delivered a lively and engaging performance for Year 8, interspersed with key messages on building resilience and confidence.

Beyond the music, the performers shared important insights on mental health, encouraging students to:

- ✓ Speak openly about their feelings
- ✓ Practice self-care and mindfulness
- ✓ Support one another through challenges

This event was part of our wider Personal Development commitment to student wellbeing, using creative platforms to spark meaningful conversations and promote positive mental health strategies.



YEAR 11: PREPARING FOR POST-16 SUCCESS

This term, our Year 11 students have taken important steps toward their future through a comprehensive Post-16 preparation programme. Every student received a one-to-one guidance meeting, offering tailored advice and support as they explored their next steps.

In addition, students engaged in:

- ✓ Guided research into labour market trends
- ✓ Exploration of Post-16 pathways and qualifications
- ✓ Support with applications to ensure every student has applied to at least one Post-16 option

This personalised approach ensures our students are informed, confident, and ready to transition into the next phase of their education or training.

For more information on Post-16 options, writing a personal statement, or details about our CEIAG programme, please visit our careers page on our website [HERE](#)

YEAR 7 STUDENTS: MAPPING OUR SCHOOL FOR BIODIVERSITY

Our Year 7 students have been busy outdoors, taking part in an exciting science project: mapping our school site for the National Education Nature Park.

Acting as Community Scientists, the students carefully surveyed our grounds—from paved areas to grassy fields and hedges—to create a detailed habitat map. This crucial first step helps us understand the current biodiversity of our school.

The data they collected will serve two key purposes:

- ✓ School Transformation: Identifying areas where we can introduce new habitats, such as wildflower patches or ponds, turning 'grey to green' to boost local wildlife.
- ✓ Global Research: Contributing to the Natural History Museum's global research database, helping scientists understand and predict nature recovery across the UK.

This project will continue in the new year with a work experience opportunity for Year 7 students, giving them hands-on experience as environmental scientists.

We are delighted to see our students developing practical skills while making a positive impact on the environment.

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ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

In addition to assemblies on road safety, we were delighted to welcome the educational theatre company Split Second for a high-impact performance tailored specifically for our Year 7 cohort.

This engaging session focused on promoting responsible behaviour and raising awareness of the potential dangers associated with roads and traffic.

Through powerful storytelling, the Split Second production highlighted the consequences of poor decisions while walking or cycling near highways. It served as a vital reminder to our newest students about the importance of vigilance and following safety protocols during their daily commutes.



STUDENT COUNCIL APPLICATIONS

We are thrilled to announce a record number of applications for this year's Student Council, with an incredible 95 students putting themselves forward.

This level of engagement reflects the commitment and leadership potential within our student body. The application and shortlisting process was managed by our current Student Council members, ensuring fairness and transparency throughout.

To maintain impartiality, a blind shortlisting process was used before final interviews were conducted. We are delighted to confirm that this rigorous process has resulted in the appointment of six dedicated new members to the council.

Congratulations to all who applied and especially to those appointed. We look forward to seeing the positive contributions they will make this year!

ARMISTICE DAY AND POPPY APPEAL

On Tuesday, November 11th, Temple Moor marked Armistice Day with a respectful and informative series of activities throughout the week, ensuring all students had the opportunity to engage in remembrance and reflection.

The commemorations culminated in the traditional two-minute silence, observed collectively as a moment of respect and remembrance.

In support of the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, a charity collection drive ran throughout the week. Students were able to purchase poppies and related charity gifts during break and lunch times, contributing to this important cause.

We are proud of the way our students approached this occasion with dignity and understanding, reinforcing the importance of remembering those who served and sacrificed.



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MISSION POSSIBLE: FOODBANK CHALLENGE SUCCESS!

Since the start of this half term, Form 8T set themselves an ambitious challenge: to collect 300 items for a local foodbank. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our students and families, they didn't just meet that target—they smashed it!

In fact, we believe we collected over 1,000 items in total. Yesterday, Mrs Cartwright and six students visited the foodbank to deliver all the donations, making a huge difference to families in need this winter.

This achievement reflects the kindness and community spirit of Temple Moor. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed—you've helped make a real impact.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2025 - POWER FOR GOOD

From Monday 10th to Friday 14th November, Temple Moor proudly took part in Anti-Bullying Week, embracing this year's theme: "Power for Good" — celebrating kindness, respect, trust, responsibility, and community spirit.

Throughout the week, students engaged in a range of activities, including:

- ✓ Anti-bullying assemblies led by Mrs Campey
- ✓ A bake sale supporting Mission Christmas
- ✓ A non-uniform day to celebrate individuality and diversity
- ✓ The Anti-Bullying Poster Competition for Years 7 & 8

The poster competition encouraged creativity and positive messaging, and we were blown away by the fantastic entries!

Congratulations to our winners:

- 🏆 Jessica (Year 7)
- 🏆 Meckenzie (Year 8)
- 🏆 Everly-Rose (Year 7)

Each winner received a £10 Amazon voucher, and their posters will help spread kindness and respect across our school community.

Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make Temple Moor a place where every student feels safe, respected, and valued.



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SIXTH FORM NEWS FRIDAY, 19 DECEMBER

YEAR 12 CPD

This half term, our Year 12 students have participated in Safer Driver Training, an important initiative designed to reduce the number of serious accidents involving new drivers.

The training focused on key safety principles, including:

- ✓ Wearing seatbelts
- ✓ Staying within speed limits
- ✓ Avoiding distractions from mobile phones and friends

Delivered free of charge by experienced ex-Traffic Police officers and Speed Awareness Course presenters, the sessions provided practical advice and real-world insights.

A key topic explored was peer pressure, with guidance on how to make safe decisions when driving with friends as passengers.

At Temple Moor Sixth Form, we are committed to preparing students for early adulthood and milestones such as learning to drive. This training is just one of the ways we help our learners stay safe and confident on the road.

YEAR 12 SAFER DRIVER TRAINING

- ✓ WEARING SEATBELTS
- ✓ STAYING WITHIN SPEED LIMITS
- ✓ AVOIDING DISTRACTIONS



MEET OUR SIXTH FORM STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

You may have seen our Student Leadership Team featured on social media.

This team is made up of three Year 12 students and three Year 13 students, working together to create a strong sense of community and shared goals within the Sixth Form.

So far, they've already made a real impact, introducing:

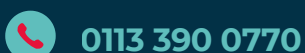
- ✓ Sixth Form lockers
- ✓ An improved common room menu
- ✓ Student input into the Sixth Form décor

Next on their agenda? Planning the Year 13 Leavers' event and developing more enrichment opportunities for all Sixth Form students.

We're proud of their commitment to making Sixth Form life even better for everyone!



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SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ENGAGE WITH HILARY BENN MP


In November, Temple Moor High School and Sixth Form welcomed Hilary Benn, MP for Leeds South and current Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Some of our Sixth Form students, including members of the Student Leadership Team, attended his talk and took part in a lively Q&A session. They asked thoughtful questions, including what qualities he believes make a great leader.

It was fantastic to see our students engage so confidently, demonstrating curiosity and ambition while discussing leadership and politics with a senior government figure.



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SIXTH FORM STUDENTS RAISE £370 FOR THE ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY

Our Sixth Form students have shown incredible leadership and teamwork by raising over £370 for The Alzheimer's Society through organising a fantastic talent show.

They coordinated auditions, advertised the event, and worked closely with both main school students and teachers—all in their own time. The group also collaborated with the Sixth Form Social Media Team to promote the show.

This is just one example of the many opportunities available for students to get involved beyond the classroom, have fun, and develop key skills that will benefit them in later life.

Well done to everyone involved.





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ODDBALLS AMBASSADORS RETURN

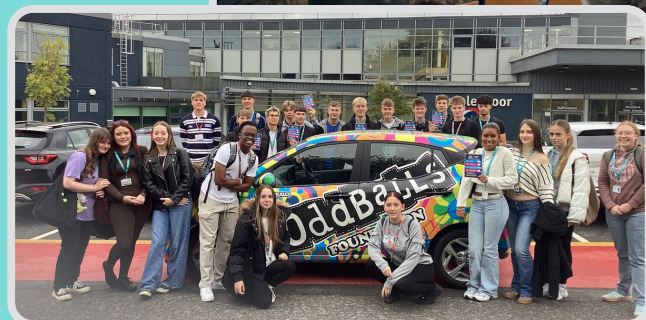
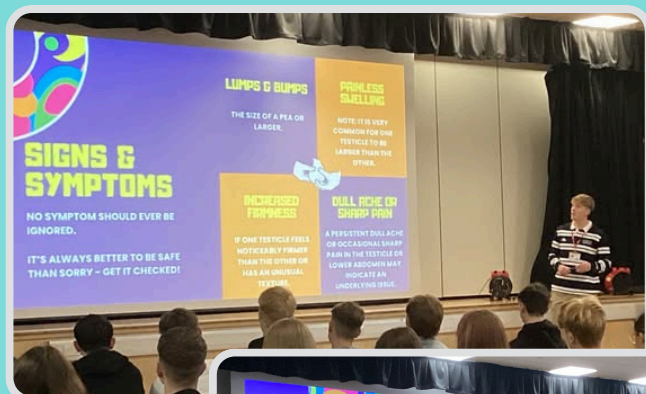
Earlier this term, we welcomed back student ambassadors from OddBalls, the testicular cancer awareness charity, to deliver an important session to our Sixth Form students.

The ambassadors provided practical advice on:

- ✓ How to check for early signs of testicular cancer
- ✓ What to do if you have concerns
- ✓ How to raise awareness with family members

Although the presentation was lighthearted, the message was clear: check yourself regularly and contact your GP if you're worried. Awareness is crucial for young people, and we're proud to support this vital initiative.

Find out more about OddBalls and their work here: [ODDBALLS](https://www.oddballs.org.uk) - they even have a great range of quirky Christmas gifts too.



REGISTER AND BE A LIFESAVER

This term, all Sixth Form students have received vital education on blood, organ, and stem cell donation through a session delivered by ASSET – The Adrian Sudbury School's Education Trust, in partnership with The Anthony Nolan Trust.

Volunteers shared powerful stories about the life-changing impact of donating blood and stem cells, inspiring many of our students to sign up as donors. We are proud to announce that Temple Moor has been presented with an award in recognition of our support for the Trust.

This initiative highlights how small actions can make a huge difference—and even save lives.

To find out more, visit: [R&Be Home Page](https://www.r&be.org.uk)



REGISTER & BE
A LIFESAVER
EDUCATION
PROGRAMME

ASSET

Adrian Sudbury
Schools' Education Trust

CELEBRATING NAIMA KAYANI'S ACHIEVEMENT

We are proud to share that Naima Kayani, a Year 13 student, has been awarded a certificate from the STEM SMART team at Cambridge University for her outstanding commitment to an academic initiative designed to support A-Level success.

As part of the programme, students tackle additional problem-solving questions and attend tutorials in their own time. Naima has dedicated herself to this for at least 35 weeks, demonstrating exceptional determination and resilience alongside studying four demanding A-Levels.

Her hard work and voluntary engagement in this initiative reflect her ambition and drive to succeed—not just in her exams this summer, but in her future studies and career.

Well done, Naima! We are incredibly proud of your achievement.



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LEWIS TOWNING-COOKSLEY REPRESENTS YOUTH AT LABOUR CONFERENCE

Back in October, one of our outstanding Sixth Form students, Lewis Towing-Cooksley, was selected to attend the Labour Party Conference in Liverpool thanks to his role as Head of Labour for Leeds East (Youth).

During the four-day event, Lewis had the incredible opportunity to vote on key policies, including those related to education. This experience provided him with a unique insight into the workings of politics and policy-making—knowledge that will support his future ambition of helping young people better understand how politics shapes our world.

Well done, Lewis! We are proud of your achievement and commitment to making a difference.



THINKING ABOUT SIXTH FORM? DON'T MISS OUT

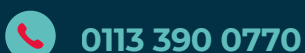
Applications for Sixth Form are closing soon – Friday 19th December.

To secure your place and subject choices for Taster Day on 6th February, make sure you apply by the deadline. Some subjects are already full, so applying on time gives you the best chance to try the courses you're interested in.

Apply now to avoid missing out!



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SPORTS NEWS FRIDAY, 19 DECEMBER

DIVING SUCCESS FOR LUCAS BISHOP

We are incredibly proud of Lucas Bishop, who achieved outstanding results in a recent international diving competition.

Lucas placed 3rd in the 3m springboard and went on to win gold on the platform in both the prelims and the final—an amazing accomplishment after 9.5-hour-long days in the pool.

His performance saw him triumph over competitors from Croatia, Germany, Sweden, Scotland, USA, and Canada, showcasing his talent and determination on the global stage.

Congratulations, Lucas! Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off.



PADEL SUCCESS AT TEMPLE MOOR

This term, Temple Moor students have embraced an exciting new sport — Padel!

On 6th October, a group of students visited Slazenger Padel Club for a private coaching session. The experience was a huge hit, with students learning new skills and showing great enthusiasm for the game. They couldn't wait to return for the next big event — the Leeds Padel Tournament!



On 21st October, five of our students — Jobe, Callum, Alfie, Ella, and Megan — represented Temple Moor brilliantly at the first-ever Leeds Padel Tournament, hosted by JM Academy and led by comedian Jason Manford.

Both teams reached the quarter-finals, with Callum and Jobe battling through to the semi-finals before being defeated by the eventual winners, Allerton Grange.

A fantastic day of sport, teamwork, and new experiences — we're already looking forward to returning next year!



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CONTACT DETAILS

If you need to contact the school, the following teams are available to support with your query. Please use the list below to find the contact details of the most appropriate person in school to direct your contact to.

Pastoral Team - support with matters of student welfare and behaviour.

Year 7 Pastoral Officer - Miss M Campey
Year 8 Pastoral Officer - Mr D Hollingworth
Year 9 Pastoral Officer - Mrs N Matthews
Year 10 Pastoral Officer - Mrs L Robertson
Year 11 Pastoral Officer - Mr P Leamey
Year 12/13 Pastoral Officer - Mrs S Pearson

Attendance Team - reporting a child absence or matters relating to attendance
attendance@tmhs.rklt.co.uk

Academic Team - support with matters relating to academic subjects.

Year 7 Phase Leader - Mrs N Sutton
Year 8/9 Phase Leader - Miss H Matthews
Year 10/11 Phase Leader - Miss R French
Year 12/13 Phase Leader - Miss H England

TIMETABLE ADJUSTMENTS IN JANUARY

In January, there will be some timetable amendments which will be made in two waves – one from January 5th, and one from January 26th. These unavoidable adjustments are being made due to maternity leaves in English and Science, alongside the departure of Miss McAndrew. Whilst the majority of students will see minor/no changes, there will be some classes who have new teachers as a consequence of this.

SAFEGUARDING

Over the Christmas holidays, we politely ask that parents and students avoid sending emails to teachers and pastoral staff. If there is a necessity to pass on information to the school, please use the following contact which will be monitored.



Tmhssafeguarding@tmhs.rklt.co.uk

Additionally, details of external agencies and contacts are available via the school website



<https://www.tmhs.co.uk/for-students-parentscarers/safeguarding/pastoral-support/>



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STAFF GOODBYES

At the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to our Special Educational Needs co-ordinator, Sarah McAndrew. Miss McAndrew has been the SENDCO with us since 2017, and during that time has supported numerous families in making school more accessible to students with additional needs, and in engaging with outside agencies to ensure that their needs are supported. She leaves with our sincerest thanks for all of her hard work over those years in supporting students, and we wish her well for her new life abroad.

Our Assistant Principal for Inclusion, Mr Duba, will continue the vital work that Miss McAndrew has been doing, supported by Miss Hall, in order to ensure continuity of provision and support.

JOIN OUR GOVERNING BOARD - MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Temple Moor High School and Sixth Form is looking for 2 Parent Governors to join our Local Governing Board.

Being a school governor is a rewarding way to contribute to your child's education and the wider school community. As a governor, you will:

- ✓ Attend five meetings per year (plus any sub-committees if needed)
- ✓ Help shape the strategic direction of the school
- ✓ Provide support and challenge to the Headteacher and leadership team
- ✓ Bring your unique insights and experience to enrich our school

The term of office is four years, and full training and support are provided.
Interested?

Find out more and download the nomination form on our school website: [CLICK HERE](#)

Your voice matters – help us make Temple Moor the best it can be!