

## ACTING PRINCIPALS: MRS J GRAHAM/MS G FERGUSON

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to introduce myself to you as the new Principal of Belfast Model School for Girls. It is with a great sense of pride and excitement that I accept this role, and I am grateful to the Board of Governors for entrusting me with this opportunity. I feel honoured and privileged to soon lead this proud and vibrant school community with such a rich culture and history.

Just a little bit about me, nine years ago, I moved from England to Northern Ireland with my wife and two daughters and during this time I have worked in three schools, most recently as the Principal of Breda Academy in South Belfast for six years. I have worked in Education for twenty-four years of which fifteen years have been as part of a Senior Leadership Team. However, I joined the field of education later in life than most, as I left school at sixteen and worked as a qualified electrician for many years with some overlap in my university studies and teacher training.

My life and work experiences have taught me the importance of developing and maintaining strong relationships with parents/carers is essential for working in partnership to meet the needs of students, to gain their confidence in the school's leadership and work, and for building a strong foundation of community trust.

Therefore, as we begin this exciting journey together, it is important to me that I listen to you and your feedback to inform and shape the future vision and direction of the school's work and practices to;

- Meet the needs of all students within a supportive learning environment, fostering a welcoming, warm, respectful, friendly, and caring community for all.
- Provide all students with high-quality educational opportunities and experiences that make them feel included, respected, safe and secure, and their achievements and contributions are valued and celebrated.

Even though my official start date is the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2025, I want you to know that I will be liaising and meeting with the Board of Governors and the Senior Leadership Team to ensure a seamless transition in leadership. I especially look forward to meeting the whole school community in late August and throughout September, as I will be holding 'Meet the New Principal' workshops to connect with you all in person. I will write to you again after the summer break with further news and updates.

As we near the end of the term, may I take this opportunity to wish you and your family an enjoyable, rejuvenating, and healthy summer break.

Kindest regards,

Mr Paul Perry – PGDH, MA, PGCE, BSc.

**Principal Designate** 

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