

September 2023

Dear parents and carers

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to you as the Principal of Uppingham Community College. I am honoured to lead a school with such a rich heritage and history, and it is a great privilege to work every day with the wonderful students and staff within our school community. During the past 3 years, following our centenary celebration, have made significant upgrades to the school site as part of our rebuilding project, following the fire of 2020. We now benefit from fully refurbished learning spaces that have been modernised and we have also recently opened a brand new £2m Modern Foreign Languages learning facility.

We are approaching the time of year where parents and young people will be making decisions about secondary school education. The national deadline for applications to secondary schools in England is October 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 and I am sure you will be exploring all of the options available to you and your child, before making this crucial decision. It is incredibly important to find the right school for your child, a place where you feel confident they will be happy and safe, and where they will flourish in their education and all round development.

At Uppingham Community College we base everything we do on our core values: Kindness, Honesty, and Respect. These simple and memorable principles guide us in the way we work and how we interact with each other every day. We are highly aspirational for our students and we expect them to achieve high standards in their education, through hard work, resilience and a determination to be the best they can be. We also expect our students to be amazing human beings, and their personal development as young people is just as important to us as their academic achievements. Each year UCC students achieve GCSE outcomes that are significantly above national averages and in 2023 our students continued this trend, achieving excellent results.

We would like to invite you to our forthcoming open evening where you will be able to discover more about Uppingham Community College. There will be three presentations from myself (with some help from our students), as well as guided student tours, and subject displays in all departments.

The details of our open evening are as follows:

**Date: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm**

**Presentation times: 6:15pm, 6:50pm and 7:30pm**

We have developed an opportunity for young people to explore the UCC site before they visit here, using Minecraft. The school site has been meticulously created by Mr Jones from our maths department, as a Minecraft Realm and we have already had hundreds of visitors who have explored the buildings using this popular game. It can be joined from the 'Realms' section of Minecraft using the code: **PxmdW5UE7JM**

Parking on our site is still quite limited, so if families who live in Uppingham are able to walk, this will help ease congestion. We have additional parking available on the school field, but this is dependent on us benefiting from good weather.

I look forward to meeting you and your family at our open evening. In the meantime, please take the time to explore our website [www.uppinghamcollege.org.uk](http://www.uppinghamcollege.org.uk)

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ben Solly', written in a cursive style.

Ben Solly  
Principal