



Monday 17th April 2023

Dear parents and carers,

We really hope that this letter finds you well. We are delighted that your child will be attending Matford Brook Academy in our Reception class in September 2023 and are looking forward to welcoming them, and your family, over the coming months.

You are joining our school at a uniquely exciting time: opening in September 2023 for our first classes in Reception and Year 7 (as well as the Nursery & Preschool), your child will be part of the inaugural cohort, the very first pupils at Matford Brook Academy. You will hopefully have had the opportunity to read about our school, our vision and values (information can be found on our [website](#)). Opening as part of the Ted Wragg Trust, our mission is to provide an excellent, all-through education that empowers children to believe that they can, and should, change the world around them. At Matford Brook Academy, we write our story - and we are so pleased that you will be part of writing this next chapter with us.

Starting school is an incredibly important time for your child. We are really passionate about this time in a child's life. We want this phase, or 'Chapter One' as we call it at Matford Brook, to ensure our youngest pupils can grow a lifelong love of learning and be inspired and enabled to write their story. We have created commitments to your child and your family which we hope will reassure you.

Not only do we have the opportunities that being a new school presents, we are also uniquely placed as an all-through school. For your child, they can have a seamless educational experience from Reception all the way through to Year 11, benefiting from the strong relationships, exceptional curriculum and personal development offer that is mapped for them. We believe this is a special experience and look forward to sharing this with you.

As a new school, there will be aspects of the transition experience which are different to those at our neighbouring Ted Wragg primary schools. This is part of our story as we move towards our opening in September. Our intention is to openly share our plans, answer any questions you have and build excitement towards our first days together.

We are keen to do everything we can to support you and your child during the transition to Matford Brook Academy. We are very much looking forward to meeting you, to building our partnership together and beginning this exciting time in our school's history. We will continue to be in touch over the coming months, including further 'Dates for your Diary', but, if you have any questions in the meantime, you can contact us via: info@matfordbrook.academy or the Local Authority via: admissions@devon.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Emily Simpson-Horne (Headteacher)

Our 'Starting Chapter One' Pledge

At Matford Brook Academy, we write our story. This begins for our pupils in Chapter One as they start their education journey.

As they begin school, we commit to:

- a home visit for every child to meet you, your family and start to build our relationship
- liaison with your child's current nursery/childcare provider (if they attend one)
- a 'meet and greet' session so that you can meet other children and their families joining the school
- a supportive start to their first school days in September

Home Visits

Emily Simpson-Horne (Headteacher) and Hannah Rose (Deputy Headteacher & SENDCo) will be the main point of contact during the next few months. As above, you can contact us via info@matfordbrook.academy if you have any questions.

Starting in June, we will be in touch to arrange a time for a home visit to meet your child and your family. We know that you know your child best and we want to get to know them too. By building a strong relationship, we believe we can share your aspirations for your child and give them the very best start to their school life.

Introducing: Hannah Rose

We are really pleased that Hannah is joining the inaugural staff leadership team for Matford Brook Academy. An experienced colleague, including as a SENDCo with the National Award for Special Educational Needs Co-Ordination, Hannah will be one of our Deputy Headteachers.



She joined the Ted Wragg Trust as a Future Headteacher and her aspirations for all children's success are inspiring. Hannah grew up in Somerset and studied English at university. Having worked abroad at an international school, she qualified as a teacher in 2007, beginning her teaching career in Coventry. She moved to Devon and worked in a variety of teaching and school leadership roles from 2010.

Hannah is particularly excited by the purposeful design of Matford Brook Academy as an all-through school, as well as our commitment to being community-focused and having the highest of expectations for every child.

'Starting Chapter One' Events

Although our amazing school building is still in the final stages of completion, we want to create opportunities for you to meet us, the Matford Brook team, and other families who are joining the school.

This date is provisional and we will confirm both the date and final arrangements closer to the time, however, please do pencil these into your diary:

Thursday 6th July, pm:
'Meet and Greet' session

Our School Site

We know that you are likely to be keen to visit our fantastic school site! We are working closely with the Department for Education (the client for the school's building) and Spatial Initiative for a finalised programme leading to our September opening. We will share updates with you as we receive them.