



## **Headteacher's Introduction**

I am delighted to be able to welcome you to John Masefield High School.

Our school is characterised by its warm and supportive community. We are welcoming, positive, friendly, and we help one another. As a relatively new member of this community, having joined in September 2024, I am reminded every day when I talk to children, their families and my colleagues, how fortunate and privileged I am to be part of John Masefield High School.

This community is an important foundation for excellent and enjoyable learning. As John Masefield himself wrote, "the days that make us happy make us wise". We know that children learn best in an environment where they feel happy and safe, where they have positive and trusting relationships, and where they benefit from inspiring experiences and opportunities. We also know that excellent learning *is* enjoyable: that humans flourish and thrive as they acquire new knowledge and skills.

We are therefore highly ambitious for our children, and we have high expectations of them. We want the very best for them, and we know that this means providing an education that goes beyond qualifications: we want our children to leave us with rich experiences, a wealth of opportunities, and a well-rounded character. We know, also, that to provide this excellent education we need to know our children as individuals, understand their interests, hopes and ambitions, so we can help them to achieve these. This means that we also have high expectations of ourselves, and I am very grateful for the tireless hard work of all our staff, as they seek to continually improve our school and enrich our community.

It is our great fortune to be the only school in the wonderful town of Ledbury. We are keenly aware of the trust and responsibility placed in us by our community as we educate the next generation. We will always want to work in partnership with our families and the wider community, seeking to benefit from their wisdom and expertise, as we discharge this most important of duties.

**John Holmes**  
**Headteacher**