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Mr G Sterry, Headteacher

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24 May 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

I am delighted to be writing to you to introduce myself as Ridgeway's new special educational needs coordinator (SENCO). I am thrilled to be joining a school which has such an unwavering commitment to its students and their families, helping ensure that the young people who attend Ridgeway have the best possible start in life.

Before joining Ridgeway I spent eight years working as a SENCO in another Wirral secondary school. I hold the National Award for SEN Coordination and, in addition to my teaching qualifications, I have a postgraduate diploma in special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

As an experienced SENCO I have also chaired a Locality SEND Board on Wirral and delivered training on SEND for various educational organisations. Over this time I have developed a wealth of Wirral-specific SEND knowledge and have good working relationships with many of the organisations which are important in the lives of children with SEND, such as Community Paediatrics, Speech and Language, and the Wirral SEND Team.

I am proud to have joined a team which so obviously has the best interests of the students at heart. Navigating through the world of SEND is not always easy, for families or for professionals. I am familiar with the challenges of securing the right support for children with SEND, and I understand how important it is that school and home work in partnership so that we meet those challenges together.

I am looking forward to getting to know the students and working with my colleagues to meet students' needs and secure the best possible outcomes for them. I am also eager to meet with parents and families. In October we will be hosting our first event for the families of children with SEND to showcase Ridgeway's developing SEND provision as well as local charities and organisations who offer vital support in the community.

I look forward to meeting you over the coming months. In the meantime, do not hesitate to get in touch if you wish to discuss any issue to do with SEND.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Stanley
SENCO

