

## Welcome to The Priory Pembroke Academy

We are delighted to welcome you to The Priory Pembroke Academy. We are very pleased that you are joining us and hope that you will feel happy, safe, and well supported throughout your time at the Academy.

We understand that moving from primary school to secondary school is a significant step, and it is completely natural to feel a mixture of excitement and uncertainty. Please be reassured that all of our staff are here to support you every step of the way and to help you settle in as smoothly as possible.

Each student is placed within a House, where a Head of House and an Inclusion Officer are available to support you with any questions or concerns you may have during the school day. They will be important members of staff who help you feel part of our school community.

Our SEND department is committed to ensuring that every student receives the support they need to succeed whilst at our Academy. Mrs Hought is our SENDCo, Mrs Brothwell is our SEND Officer, Mrs Elvin our Senior Inclusion Lead and Miss Empson is the Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion. On the back of this leaflet you will find short introductions to each of us to help you get to know us a little better.

We are also very pleased to be welcoming Mrs Hemming in September. Mrs Hemming is a primary-trained teacher who will be leading smaller English and Maths classes for students in Years 7–9. While students in these groups will continue to follow the curriculum, the smaller class sizes will allow for more personalised support to help build confidence and understanding. Mrs Hemming will be located in our Inclusion Base, where we have created a new learning space specifically designed for small group teaching.

At the Academy, we place a strong emphasis on supporting students through a range of targeted interventions. These may focus on academic progress, social development, or emotional wellbeing. Staff may refer students for particular interventions, and these are carefully considered by a panel including the SENDCo and members of the Senior Leadership Team. Some of the support we offer includes handwriting and touch-typing programmes, ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support), Morph Mastery, counselling through Nurture Garden and Listening 2 U, Talkabout for Teenagers, Catch-Up Numeracy, Wellbeing Ambassadors, mentoring, Online Safety, and a range of English interventions such as Herts for Learning, Bedrock and The Lit Programme.

In addition to classroom support, we also recognise the importance of providing a safe and supportive environment during break times. Our Inclusion Base offers a small, supervised space at break times where selected students can spend time socialising, having lunch, or engaging in quiet activities. As places are limited, we aim to ensure that this provision is available to those students who would benefit from it most.

We are very much looking forward to getting to know you and supporting you as you begin your journey with us.

Warm regards,  
The Priory Pembroke Academy

### **Mrs Hought**

Hi everyone! I'm Mrs Hought, and I am the SENDCo at The Priory Pembroke Academy.

I am a maths teacher and have been teaching for around twelve years. I have a wealth of experience working within the areas of pastoral and behaviour. I am thoroughly enjoying the role of SENDCo and having the opportunity to support students more closely and help drive meaningful, positive change to support our SEND students.

I pride myself on being approachable and always aim to support students whenever they need it.

I'm always happy to chat about football, I keep a drawer stocked with treats for those moments when they're needed, and one of my favourite personal achievements is completing a charity skydive (even though I am petrified of heights).

### **Mrs Brothwell**

Hello everyone! My name is Mrs Brothwell, and I am the school's SEND Officer.

You'll usually find me in the SEN office, but I love getting out and about around school whenever I can to say hello and spend time with the children.

The best part of my job is getting to know all the children and seeing them happy, smiling, and enjoying their time at school.

I am always curious and love learning new things, especially from the wonderful pupils I meet every day!

Outside of school, I enjoy going to the gym at the weekends, which helps me stay active and energised for the week ahead.

I look forward to working with you all and getting to know you better!

### **Miss Empson**

Hi everyone. I'm Miss Empson, an Assistant Headteacher at The Priory Pembroke Academy, where I lead on inclusion and safeguarding.

Building strong, positive relationships with students is at the heart of my role. I'm known for being approachable and supportive, and I'm committed to doing whatever I can to ensure every young person feels safe, understood and able to thrive.

Spending time with students and supporting them through both challenges and successes is genuinely the best part of what I do.

### **Mrs Elvin**

Hello! My name is Mrs Elvin and I am the Senior Inclusion Lead.

I have worked at Pembroke for eleven years - I thoroughly enjoy my work. I especially enjoy the time I spend talking with students, supporting them and helping them navigate their way through secondary school.

I'm really looking forward to getting to know each of you and being part of your journey.