

James Gallagher

Good afternoon everyone,

I'd just like to take a few minutes of your time to talk about **our** school, and what I believe I could bring to your head team.

We're so lucky to go to such a fantastic school like St Ninian's, where we know we're loved - seeing as we're on our third head of year!

Our school is so well known for our achievements in maths and sciences and our natural progression into the likes of medicine and law. But as we know, there's more to it than that.

Take for example, our incredible Music Department, who, aside from preparing students for their SQA exams, equally prepare us for life by developing our skills in confidence, team-work and independence.

Its these experiences and opportunities, whether it's in the performing arts, PE, modern languages or design and manufacture that we'll never forget.

And that's why in this last crucial year, I want to emphasise the importance of receiving a broad education not only academically but encompassing skills and abilities that will last a lifetime.

St Ninians *is* a catholic school and our faith and beliefs are obviously at the heart of our school community. It's been a privilege to have Monsignor Monaghan, Fr Stephen and Fr Jonathan as our year group's biggest supporters and I'd really like to thank them for that.

Not forgetting our teachers who, of course, at the end of the day are here for us. In a school, the most important thing is the mutual respect we have with our teaching staff, supporting us in our development and maximising our learning.

As a year group, we've been through a lot, and over our five years here, we'll have faced our own individual challenges too. I understand this and will make it my top priority that whoever you are, from your first day here to your last – you feel comfortable in this school and you feel comfortable with your teachers in order to reach your full potential.

So what I am going to do?

I want to work with teachers, in particularly pastoral staff to further develop the support we have in the school and encourage every young person, regardless of the problem they may find themselves experiencing, to feel confident in the support the school can offer and comfortable in the fact that there is someone here they can talk to.

Aside from working with staff to develop our support network, I want to ensure that this year is the best it can be for us. We have a busy calendar between now and when we finish in April so to really work as a team, I'd like as much input as possible between sixth year, our head team and our teachers, to make it a year to remember.

It would be an absolute honour and a privilege to represent our year group and our school community over the course of the next year

So with that...

Floreat Iuventus.

Thank You for listening and I wish all of us here a great year!