



Weald of Kent
Grammar School



Mrs V Ricks – Deputy Head Teacher

I have been Deputy Headteacher as well as a teacher of French and German at Weald of Kent Grammar School since January 2019 and it has been an honour to be part of this educational pillar in the West Kent community ever since. I am responsible for the quality of education of the school as well as the personal development of our students at our Sevenoaks campus as this is where I will be mainly based from September 2022. I also line manage the Science and Foreign Languages departments.

What could be more humbling, rewarding and yet crucial in recognising the importance of educating a child as a whole; to be able to see our students grow over their seven-year journey and be prepared to thrive in an ever-changing and diverse world? Throughout my career and in my various curriculum and pastoral responsibilities, whether in schools abroad or locally, my intention has always been to:

- Consider the quality of teaching and learning as the single most important ‘in-school’ factor for improving students’ progress, success and outcomes, by ensuring they *know* more, *do* more and *remember* more to make their learning more motivating and powerful;
- Develop a culture of learning where students become strong, open-minded and caring global citizens with highly developed emotional intelligence;
- Equip them with the knowledge and intellectual curiosity required to be confident in articulating opinions, generating ideas, solving problems and making a difference by defending and preserving fundamental democratic and human rights, as well as social values;
- Promote wellbeing to realise and maximise one’s potential, to cope with life’s uncertainties and make a positive contribution to our communities – in other words, to lead a happy and fulfilling life;

This is what I mean by Academic Excellence and Personal Success.