

**Principal: Mr Ian Walsh**

Broadoak Academy, Windwhistle Road,  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 4NP

**Tel:** 01934 422 000

**Email:** enquiries@broadoakacademy.clf.uk

www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk

23 January 2026



Dear parents and carers,

My name is Ian Walsh, and I am writing today to introduce myself as the new Principal of Broadoak Academy – a role I am hugely excited to take on, beginning on Monday (26 January).

I have already had the pleasure of meeting some of you, and others may have seen me within the school already. This is because I have been onsite at Broadoak since the beginning of term, taking a couple of weeks to get to know the culture, the team and the students before taking up my new role.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to Lis Jolley. Working alongside Lis over the last few weeks has been an absolute pleasure. She has been incredibly supportive, generous with her time, and deeply committed to ensuring a smooth transition for the school. Her dedication to Broadoak, its students, and its staff is clear to see. I am very grateful for her guidance and professionalism, and I know the whole community will join me in thanking her for everything she has given to the school.

I know that you will be keen to know more about the person who will be leading your child's school, so today I want to tell you a little bit about myself.

Firstly, I know this part of the world well. I grew up in Burnham-on-Sea and spent a lot of my youth in Weston, so I have many fond memories of the area. It feels very special to now be given the opportunity to give back to this community.

Throughout my career, I've worked in communities facing significant disadvantage –15 years in South London, in Peckham and Croydon, and more recently in Bristol, in Shirehampton and Knowle West, where I held a Vice Principal role. These experiences have shaped my passion for supporting those most in need and empowering young people to believe in themselves and achieve their full potential.

It is my firm belief that schools should be places of ambition, belonging, and joy. My vision for Broadoak is to build on its strong foundations and ensure every child gains the knowledge, skills, and qualifications they need to open doors to a life of choice and opportunity. Equally, I want our staff to feel empowered, trusted, and proud of the work we do together.



Working in partnership with



**Principal: Mr Ian Walsh**

Broadoak Academy, Windwhistle Road,  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 4NP

**Tel:** 01934 422 000

**Email:** [enquiries@broadoakacademy.clf.uk](mailto:enquiries@broadoakacademy.clf.uk)

[www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk](http://www.broadoakacademy.clf.uk)



Collaboration and continuous improvement are at the heart of my leadership approach, and I look forward to working with team to make Broadoak an exceptional place for learning and growth – a true hub within the community.

I was told before I arrived here that Broadoak is a wonderful school to lead or be part of, and that I will be inheriting an exceptional staff body who support one another brilliantly and go the extra mile every single day. Already, I have seen for myself how true that is.

I'm excited to get to know you and your children, and to begin this journey together.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Walsh,

**Principal**

Broadoak Academy



Working in partnership with



Broadoak Academy is part of the Cabot Learning Federation, a company limited by guarantee.  
Registered office: Federation House, Brook Road, Kingswood, Bristol BS15 4JT.  
Company registration no. 06207590.

*Maximising students' abilities, ambitions and academic potential*