



**RICHARD
TAUNTON**
Sixth Form College

60 Second Interview with our new Head of College, Liz Lee

What did you do before being appointed to Head of College?

I came to Richard Taunton as a Curriculum Director in 2009, became an Assistant Principal in 2011 and was then promoted to Deputy Principal at the start of 2015. Prior to this I was a Head of the Psychology Department at Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke for several years.

What will you be doing in your new role as Head of College?

Put simply, I will be responsible for the management and day-to-day operations and business of the college. My focus will be on ensuring that students are learning and making progress in their study programmes and that teachers are well prepared and supported to deliver excellent lessons.

What is your vision for Richard Taunton?

To be the first and obvious choice of sixth form college for the young people in our community. I am committed to high standards and continuous improvement as a means of ensuring all our students are successful. This will involve the removal of barriers to learning and closing the achievement gaps between groups of students.

What is the best piece of advice you could give to students who are joining us in September?

First of all, and as my predecessor would have said, "begin with the end in mind". Think about what you wish to achieve and where you wish to go on leaving college and then work towards this goal. Second, take every opportunity that presents itself; we offer a great number of different enrichment activities and chances to be involved with sports, creative and personal development. Get involved and make the most of your time with us!

Will there be any new courses on offer from September 2018?

Yes, we are pleased to be introducing A Level statistics and A Level computer science this year. These two important additions to our STEM curriculum means we can offer real choice to students wishing to pursue a wide range of STEM related courses at higher education.

Why do you think that Richard Taunton is such a great place to study and learn?

Because our staff have a real interest in the progress of our students and offer first class support to help them meet their potential. We listen to students and act on their feedback to make improvements to the learning environment and ensure their learning journey is positive and ultimately successful.

What do you consider to be the Richard Taunton highlights so far this academic year?

Well, our music and performing arts students have excelled this year with dance students performing at the Premier Division final of Rock Challenge, performing arts students giving an outstanding performance of Sister Act and our jazz musicians being feted and asked to perform at the NEU conference and in the Jazz Ticket finale, supporting the Nu Orchestra, at the Southbank Centre in London. Topping all this was our Celebration Event in May where we recognised the hard work and talent of students across all academic, creative and sporting areas. It was a wonderful afternoon.

