

## Getting to know Mr Kearns - our new Principal



Hi,

I am Mr Kearns, your new Principal. Just before the Easter holidays I had the pleasure of meeting a group of students from classes across the school. They took it in turns to ask me lots of different questions. It was great fun and I was very impressed with their interviewing skills and the thought they put into the questions they asked.

I hope you enjoy reading or watching the interview!

I can't wait to meet each and every one of you in person over the next few weeks and I am really excited and proud to be your new Principal.

Thank you to all students that took part in the interviews.

What is your name and what were you doing before?	My name is James Kearns. I was Deputy Headteacher at Thomas Moore School in Purley. Before that I worked at The Royal Marsden Hospital.
What is your favourite food?	I like Thai food - Prawn Pad Thai or a Thai green vegetable curry.
Why did you want to work at Carew Academy?	I chose Carew Academy because I wanted to work with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) children. When I visited the school, it felt like a family, everyone was working together to get the best out of you all. You all seemed to love your school and were happy to be at school.
What are your favourite crisps?	This is an easy question, ready salted Hula Hoops.
What schools have you been head at and how long have you been teaching?	This my first Headteacher/ Principal role. I have been a Deputy Headteacher and a Biology teacher for 21 years.
What is your favourite video game?	Warhammer 40,000 – Space Wolf
How old are you?	I am 48
Will you be teaching us at school?	Yes, I will. I'll start off with some science lessons.

Do you have any hobbies?	I have lots of hobbies. I like gardening, bushcraft (outdoor survival skills), I collect swords and I like to play Warhammer.
Will you be visiting classrooms?	Yes. At the start of the summer term, I will visit three classes a day for an hour at a time so that we can get to know each other.
Do you have any children?	I do, I have two children – Harley, aged two and Tyler, aged six.
How will you be helping around the school?	I will be leading our school as your Principal and supporting and helping everyone at school.
What football team do you support?	I'm not a huge football fan, but if I had to choose a team it would be Arsenal.
What do you want to improve at Carew Academy?	Carew Academy is an outstanding school, so there isn't too much to fix. I will wait, watch and see. I have had one idea - our school would benefit from a new digital door entry system at Reception, this will make the school even safer.
Do you have any pets?	I have two cats called Luna and Cyrus.
What is your Favourite subject?	Biology.
Do you like gymnastics, dancing and singing?	I like to watch gymnastics. I like dancing, but I'm not very good at it. I am an awful singer; I can't even whistle in tune!
What is your favourite animal?	A wolf.
How long do you plan to stay at Carew Academy?	I have no end date.
What is your favourite type of music and your favourite song?	Clannad's Theme from 'Harry's Game' was played at my wedding so that is one of my favourite songs. I also like rock music – Radiohead are great.
What is your favourite sport?	Cricket and rugby.
Are you good at sport?	I used to play rugby and cricket for the county and I like Thai boxing.
Will we be able to go on school trips?	School trips are really important; they create memories for life. I can remember my school trip to France, it was amazing. As soon as lock down is over, I want you to have the opportunity to go on brilliant educational trips.
What TV show do you like?	Anything by David Attenborough, I like to watch nature programmes.
What school trip would you take us on?	We could have a Principal's reward trip that you choose. I would personally choose an outdoor bushcraft trip. I am a trained bushcraft practitioner so that would be my favourite!