

CWA/LDA/GHA

20 February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: The Leadership of the Academy over the Next Three Months

I hope this correspondence finds our families having enjoyed a good half term break.

It is with great sadness, as well as a real sense of frustration, that I am writing to inform you Friday 24 February 2023 will be my last day in the academy for at least three months. This is because I will be undergoing surgery in the very near future which will then involve a lengthy recovery period. This news will also provide some context as to why I informed you in September that this would be my last year as the academy's overall lead. This is because whilst I have had the condition in question for quite some time and endeavoured to not let it affect my role as the academy's lead, it has got progressively worse and surgery is now something I cannot postpone any longer.

Moving forward, the Joint Heads of Academy - positions which are the equivalent to Headteacher status - Mr Baster and Mrs Clark, who between them have over 30 years' service at this academy, will lead in my absence. They will be supported by a strong, experienced and collaborative Senior Leadership Team, as well as an excellent teaching and support staff group. They will also retain the advice, guidance and quality assurance of our experienced and committed Board of Trustees. Therefore, I have every faith that through their combined actions, the impact of my absence will prove to be somewhat minimal.

The academy's team of staff were informed of this news earlier this morning and at the same time as you are receiving this letter, I am informing our students via a whole academy virtual assembly. This is because as I have always tried to do, I want to ensure I am as honest and as open with them about the situation as I am being with both yourselves and my Colleagues. Still, I shall miss them greatly in the months ahead but very much look forward to the time when I can come back to work alongside them once again and prior to my time at the academy coming to an end.

To reiterate, I am both saddened as well as greatly frustrated to be in such a position and I genuinely apologise for not being able to lead the academy in the months ahead. However, I take great comfort in being able to thank you in advance for what I know will be your continued invaluable support for our tremendous team of staff in my absence.

Yours sincerely



Mr C A Wakefield
Executive Principal