

PNA/LDA/GHA

24 April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## Re: The Leadership of the Plume Academy during the Summer Term and next Academic Year

I do hope you and your families had an enjoyable Easter break.

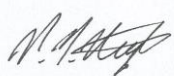
The Board of Trustees wanted to update you all on two important matters relating to the leadership of the academy. Firstly, further to Mr Wakefield's taking a forced absence from the academy from the end of February 2023 in preparation for surgery, much to his frustration, the surgery has been delayed. As a consequence, we do not expect Mr Wakefield to return to the academy until the last few weeks in the summer term, only a short-time prior to the formal end of his time at the academy. He misses being in the academy immensely, sends his best wishes to students, staff, parents and carers and all being well he looks forward to celebrating in person the achievements of the academy's stakeholders as the academic year draws to a close.

Secondly, regarding securing a new Principal, following the re-advertisement of the role in March, we have not been able to secure suitable candidates from which to progress with interviews planned for last week.

Therefore, having reviewed the current job market, the current leadership structure and strengths of the current team, with the Joint Heads of Academy positions at the helm, Trustees have decided to not re-advertise the Principal role at the present time, but review the leadership of the academy during the next academic year.

Mrs Clark and Mr Baster as Joint Heads of Academy, have over 32 years of experience at Plume between them. With the support of a strong and experienced leadership team, they have been effectively leading the academy during Mr Wakefield's enforced absence. Trustees have confidence that these arrangements provide a strong basis to take the academy forward into the new academic year, building on the legacy that Mr Wakefield has built over the last 7 ½ years.

Yours sincerely



Paul Nagle  
Chair of Plume Academy's Board of Trustees