

11 October 2017

Dear parent/carer

We are writing to you to inform you about some exciting new developments at Akroydon Primary Academy (APA).

The first is the appointment of Emma Hanlon as Acting Principal until the end of this academic year. Mrs. Hanlon has an extensive background in primary education, having worked in a number of good and outstanding primary schools for over ten years. She joins the academy from the central team of Trinity Multi-Academy Trust (MAT). At a later point this year, an advert will also be placed for a permanent Principal, to start at the academy from September 2018. Lisa Hoyle, in her capacity as Executive Principal, will also continue to work at APA until further notice in order to offer additional leadership support to the academy.

Further to this is the impending appointment of a Lead Behaviour Professional, a post that will be operational in the next week. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Simon Strickland, the Family Liaison Officer, who leaves us this week. Mr. Strickland has spent just over three years at the academy and leaves with our best wishes for his future career.

As you can see, the academy will benefit from a strong and experienced pastoral support team, including the newly-appointed Lead Behaviour Professional and Mrs. Brady (the Parental Engagement Officer), as well as additional support from the trust's central team that support more vulnerable pupils.

The final major development at the academy is the implementation of a new Behaviour for Learning (BfL) Policy. This policy, which is a primary version of the policy that is in place in all our trust secondary schools, will be communicated to all staff and pupils over the next week via meetings and assemblies. It will be fully implemented from the week beginning Monday 23 October 2017.

This new policy should not be taken as a sign that behaviour across the academy is poor. However, the main objective of this policy is absolute consistency – strict guidelines that all pupils (and staff) have to follow to ensure that we create a safe and vibrant learning environment for all pupils. The learning environment we have at present is not outstanding; we are all clear, and we are sure that every parent will agree, that nothing but outstanding will suffice.

A major benefit of the policy is the focus on rewards – if pupils come to school to work hard and respond positively to all adult instructions, we can guarantee that they will really enjoy the new, higher expectations. The policy will be available on the website if any parent/carer would like further information.

Thank you for your continuing support of the academy.

John White
Chair of the Governing Body

Lisa Hoyle
Acting Executive Principal