

4 September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

On behalf of all at the academy, I would like to welcome you back (or welcome you for the first time) to Akroydon Primary Academy, I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer. The main purpose of this letter is to communicate some significant changes at the academy since the end of the last term.

As you will be aware, Rawson Junior & Infants School became Akroydon Primary Academy in February 2017, whilst at the same time joining the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

Trinity MAT, which exists to provide an outstanding education for all the students in its care, continually quality assures all its academies, in particular the outcomes that pupils achieve when they leave. In the opinion of the MAT, the outcomes for the Year 6 pupils in 2017 were inadequate. Moreover, this underperformance was not isolated; the outcomes in 2016 were equally poor (placing the school, Rawson Junior & Infants at the time, 120th out of 125 comparable schools).

With that in mind, the trust made the decision to remove the existing Governing Body (GB) with immediate effect, and install an Interim Executive Board to run the academy. This happened on 20 July 2017, the penultimate day of the last term. It was therefore decided to communicate this information to parents immediately after the holidays to ensure that it received their full attention. In addition to this, Mrs Lomas has decided to move on to pastures new after two years as Principal at Akroydon. We thank her for her work here; Mrs Lomas in turn has asked that her best wishes are passed on to all at the academy.

The MAT has been working over the holidays to ensure that additional leadership capacity is secured which will enable the academy to improve rapidly. I am delighted to say that from 1 September 2017, Lisa Hoyle (the current Head Teacher at Luddenden CE Primary School) will assume a role of Executive Principal over both Luddenden and Akroydon. Lisa is a designated Local Leader of Education, (LLE) and has significant experience and expertise in ensuring rapid improvements in the primary sector. Furthermore, Jenny Lewis (the current Assistant Principal) will move from three days a week to working at Akroydon full time, ably supported by other members of the MAT central team. As a longer term solution, the MAT will also advertise for a new Principal in the near future.

Whilst these are significant changes, I can assure all parents/carers that these decisions have been made in the interests of improving the learning experience and outcomes of the pupils. The academy is holding a Parents' Meeting on **Tuesday 12 September at 7.00pm** (and again on **Wednesday 13 September at 7.00pm**). These meetings will offer parents the opportunity

to ask any questions regarding any of the above changes. At the meeting, we will also start a wider consultation on the current academy day, in particular the 1.30pm finish on a Friday. It is an integral part of the MAT philosophy that every lesson counts; therefore we feel an earlier finish on one day has a negative impact on learning and progress.

I do apologise for my first letter to parents being so detailed and specific. It is an attempt to explain, in as much detail as is needed, the significant changes that have occurred. I would expect parents to be actively engaged and constructively critical – this is your child's time, and providing them with an outstanding level of education is what we are all striving for.

Finally, a further letter will be sent out to parents shortly from Lisa Hoyle, containing more specifics regarding which teacher has been allocated to each year group and so on. I look forward to seeing you on either the 12 or 13 September, in the meantime, if there is a pressing matter, do not hesitate to contact Lisa Hoyle through the usual academy channels.

Yours sincerely

Michael Gosling
Chief Executive Officer
Trinity Multi-Academy Trust