



Imagine, Believe, Achieve

4 June 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

It isn't very often that I, as the Chair of Governors, write directly to you. I hope that you are all doing well during these strange times. Along with the teaching staff, we are looking forward to getting back to normal, as I am sure you are too.

I am writing to let you know that our Principal Daniel Baxby, is leaving Witchford Village College at the end of this school year to take up a new appointment nearer to his home. This has been a fairly recent development and both the College and the Trust have been working hard over the last couple of weeks to come to terms with this change and to adapt to it.

It is very important to all concerned with the College that we do not let this change derail the amazing work that the students, teachers and leadership team have put in over the last two years. The difference right across the College is palpable, exciting and inspiring.

As a result, I am very pleased to be able to announce a new Executive Principal of WVC who will join in September. Rolf Purvis is currently the Principal of Downham Market Academy (DMA), which is part of the same enlarged Trust as WVC will be from September. Mr Purvis will provide an excellent addition to our College. He has been Principal at DMA for three years and in that time has transformed the school and the outcomes for students. Before taking on the role at DMA, he was at Chesterton Community College for 31 years, including a significant spell as Deputy Head. Chesterton Community College has had an outstanding reputation for many years and is often regarded as one of the top performing schools in the country. Mr Purvis was a key part of the team that delivered this change.

As a result, the Governing Body and I are excited about what this means for students and staff as we continue the journey that Mr Baxby and his team started.

On behalf of the governors, staff, parents and students, I would like to place on record my thanks to Mr Baxby for all he has achieved in the turnaround and progress of WVC over the past two years. He, and the other members of the senior leadership team, have put in place a strong foundation for the future success of the College and their three-year plan will continue to be the basis of the College's development. The Governing Body would like to wish Mr Baxby every success in his new role.

I would like to reassure you that we, along with the College's senior leadership team, teaching staff and the merging Trusts will continue to do everything we can to ensure that the changes only have a positive impact on you and your education.

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When the new academic year starts in September we will be starting a new chapter in the College's history as part of a new Trust with Mr Purvis as Executive Principal at WVC, where he will focus his energies on continuing the school's successful journey.

I would be delighted to answer any questions you as parents, carers or students may have about this - my email address is sthompson@wvc.tmet.org.uk

Yours faithfully



Sandra Thompson
Chair of Local Governing Body