

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you are well. To begin with, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support throughout recent times. As a Trust, we are committed to supporting our students, and during this challenging time we have been so humbled by our communities' willingness to pull together and support each other. I would like to thank you for the positive approach you have taken to our schools reopening this term. It is lovely to have students back in the schools and we are delighted to have them with us again.

I also wanted to let you know today about some important news about the leadership of the Trust. Dick Vasey has provided superb leadership in his four years as Chief Executive, but he has decided that this calendar year will be his last, and he will retire in December.

Dick has been an intrinsic part of the Trust since it was founded in 2016, instrumental in our schools' success and indeed an asset for all our communities. He started as Headteacher of The Long Eaton School, which he led to an Ofsted judgement of 'Outstanding', and he oversaw the construction of a brand new school building there. He then became the Headteacher of Ashfield School and was appointed to the substantive role of Chief Executive Officer of The Two Counties Trust in 2016 combining this role with his role at Ashfield for 18 months.

Dick's work has not been confined to our Trust – as a local Leader of Education (LLE) for the past 14 years, he has supported a variety of different schools through school-to-school support and through developing leadership capacity. I know I speak for all those in our Trust's community when I thank him for all he has done. His vision and drive have provided high-quality education for thousands of young people. We wish him the very best for a happy retirement when he steps down at Christmas.

We will be very sad to see Dick leave, but I am delighted to announce that our new Chief Executive will be Wesley Davies. Wesley is currently an Executive Principal at Dixons Academies Trust based in Bradford.

As an Executive Principal, Wesley is an integral member of the leadership team at the Trust and has supported the development of many of their excellent schools. Wesley has led on several very successful Trust-wide projects and initiatives and represents Dixons on the local strategic behaviour and attendance network. Amongst his many achievements, Wesley became the Principal of Dixons McMillan Academy in Bradford in 2014 and led the school to 'Outstanding' in all areas by 2017, a remarkable achievement considering the sixth form provision had only been open nine months.

Wesley also brings significant experience in the formation of new free schools, which has involved working with stakeholders, overseeing Ofsted Pre-Opening Inspections and Readiness to Open Meetings with the Department for Education. Beyond his work at Dixons Academies Trust, he has provided support to various schools in Bradford and the North more widely on self-evaluation, school leadership and strategies to support students eligible for pupil premium.

The Board of Trustees are delighted to have appointed Wesley as our new Chief Executive who will take up post in January 2021. We look forward to the next chapter in our Trust's story, which we are sure will see the Trust continue to reach new heights and achieve exceptional outcomes for our students, staff and local communities, building on the firm foundations that Dick has put in place.

Thank you all again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



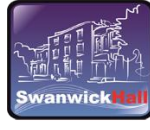
Karen Potts
Chair of Trustees



Ashfield School



Selston High School



Manor Academy



Friesland School



Wilthorpe School



Springwell
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