

19 June 2023

Dear Parents,

### **Leadership at Alton Close Primary Academy**

I am writing to inform you that Ms Howarth Barnes has decided to step down as Head of the school after 10 very successful years working across Swindon Academy's primary and secondary phases. Under her leadership at Alton Close there have been significant improvements in the school's performance, ambition for its pupils and its popularity as a school. She has decided, however, that she needs now to focus on her family and will therefore be taking a career break. This is not a decision she has taken lightly but she feels that the school is now in a strong position with improvement well-embedded across the board. We would like to thank her for excellent work at the school, her dedication to the children and her hard work and leadership in driving up improvement. We are very sorry to see her go and wish her the very best for the future.

With her departure and, reflecting on the strength of the school, we are putting in place a new leadership structure for Alton Close and Beech Avenue.

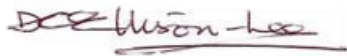
Firstly, as you will be aware Ms Karen Wright is Interim Principal for the whole of Swindon Academy, including the Primary phase and will be spending more time at Alton Close in the coming months.

Secondly, Ms Charlotte Beckhurst will be Head Teacher across both Alton Close and Beech Avenue with Ms Emma Brown becoming Site Head at Alton Close. Both Ms Beckhurst and Ms Brown are well known to parents and pupils and will be working closely together to ensure the school continues to go from strength to strength. In doing so they will be supported by Ms Amy Burton as Deputy Head, and the three Assistant Heads Ms Natalia Lee, Mr Andrew Te Huna and Mr Joe Kerley Styles.

This is a very strong senior leadership team for the school and they will be working over the next few weeks to finalise plans for September and the new academic year.

May I wish you an enjoyable remainder of the Summer Term and a restful and happy Summer.

Yours sincerely



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