



Tuesday 5 December 2023

Dear Parent

### **Wroughton Academies Leadership Update**

I am writing to provide an update on the current and long-term plans for the leadership of Wroughton Academies.

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself as the Executive Principal for Creative Education Trust Academies in the East of England. As an experienced Principal, including more recently leading Caister Academy since September 2020, I was appointed in September 2023 to provide additional support to leaders in our Eastern schools. Since September I have been working closely with leaders at Wroughton Academies to ensure we have sufficient capacity to develop both the Infant and Junior schools in a positive and sustained manner.

### **Headship Appointment**

You will be aware that Mark Thompson has been Acting Headteacher at Wroughton Academies from May this year and has led the schools through a period of substantial change in that time. I am delighted to share that Mr Thompson recently applied for the substantive position of Deputy Headteacher and has been successfully appointed to the post, taking up the role with effect from yesterday. We are grateful for the work that Mr Thompson has led as Headteacher and are excited that he will remain a member of our community into the future.

You may also be aware that since September, Laura O'Shaughnessy has been working alongside Mr Thompson, providing support as an experienced senior leader. I am delighted to share that following Mr Thompson's appointment to the Deputy Headteacher role, Ms O'Shaughnessy has agreed to remain at Wroughton Academies until August 2024 as Headteacher. Ms O'Shaughnessy brings a wealth of expertise to the Headteacher role, and we are confident that with the support of staff, students and the community, Wroughton Academies will continue to move from strength to strength under her leadership.



As Ms O'Shaughnessy is not from the local area and therefore not in a position to take on the role of Headteacher beyond August, we will shortly begin a recruitment campaign to find the right candidate to lead the school from September 2024. Given the importance of the role, we will take our time to ensure the successful candidate is able to provide the long-term strength of leadership our community deserves.

### **Assistant Headteacher Appointment**

Finally, I am delighted to share that Andy Petersen, previously a Lead Practitioner within the Junior school, has recently been appointed to the role of Assistant Headteacher across both schools. Mr Petersen will be focused on the quality of assessment and curriculum in both schools, bringing extensive teaching and learning expertise to the role.

We are currently undertaking interviews for other roles within the schools and will share the outcome of those processes once they are complete. Our next correspondence will be from Ms O'Shaughnessy at the Christmas break, when we will share a full staffing update, so parents are kept informed for the term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr B Driver  
Executive Principal