

Swanland Education Trust

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www.swanlandeducationtrust.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Mr Chris Huscroft
Chief Executive Officer

We would like to write to you with some important information about leadership staffing at your school child's school from September 2020.

As you will know, Chris Huscroft has undertaken the role of Executive Head Teacher of Dunswell Academy and Swanland Primary School, as well as CEO of Swanland Education Trust for a number of years. Both Alison Oxtoby and Hannah Stephenson, respectively at Dunswell and Swanland have very ably supported him as Head of School.

As a Board of Trustees, we have been talking for a number of months about the Trust's current position, and how we strengthen this further, by developing the capacity it has to work with its current schools and new schools that may join in the future. Our discussions focus first and foremost on what is right for the children and how the systems and structures that are in place support this. This also includes our work with the Regional School's Commissioner and Department for Education team.

Interestingly our latest conversations at both Trust and DfE level have aligned in that it is now clear, the role of CEO is to be distinctly separate from the leadership of any individual schools – this ensures a level of accountability whilst also giving impartiality to all schools in the Trust to those who will join in the future.

It is therefore the Trust board's decision that as of August 31st 2020, Chris Huscroft will formally relinquish his Executive Head Teacher role at both Dunswell Academy and Swanland Primary School, becoming full time CEO of the Trust from 1st September 2020.

For some, you will feel very little difference as the schools have already flourished under the excellent leadership of Alison and Hannah. For others, including yourselves, this is a significant change as Chris will no longer be associated, directly with the schools and will be focusing on representing SET as a multi academy trust.

Of course, this also means that Alison Oxtoby and Hannah Stephenson will assume the role of Head Teacher in their schools. Furthermore, Sally Patrick's role at Swanland Primary School will be that of Deputy Head Teacher, with effect, 1st September 2020. I am sure that you will join us in wishing them lots of luck in their roles as they continue to develop their strong leadership.

For Chris this is a time of mixed emotions. Excitement, as he moves on to the next phase of his work with the Trust but also sadness as his close ties with Swanland Primary School in particular, will be lost. Chris started as Deputy Head Teacher at Swanland in 2009 becoming Head of School in 2013 and then Executive Head Teacher of both schools in 2014. He has built many strong relationships with all members of the Swanland family and latterly with those at Dunswell Academy and has thoroughly enjoyed the chances he has had to work with so many brilliant people.

It is important to note that the board of trustees are focused on strategic development of the trust, its people and the children we support. Over the coming weeks, months and years the board of trustees will be working with Chris to maintain the high standards we are all so proud of, to replicate this within other schools who may join the trust and to build upon our strategic partnerships as a multi academy trust.

As always, we would like to thank you for your continuing support, now and in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "N A Greenfield".

Nathan Greenfield
Chairman of Trustees