

4<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

### Trust Staff Changes

Welcome back to what we hope will be a happy and prosperous 2019 for you and your children.

I am writing to inform you of some exciting staffing changes across the Trust for the New Year.

I hope you will join me in congratulating Mrs Sarah Porter, the current headteacher at Heartsease, who has successfully gained promotion to the role of Head of Quality Assurance (Inclusion and Early Years) and will work across all four schools. This is an exciting opportunity for both Mrs Porter and the Trust as we build upon our already excellent provision for children with special needs. Mrs Porter will also be focusing on expanding and further improving the Trust's nursery provision, meaning that children will receive the best possible start to their education and that any special needs or additional support will be identified at the earliest possible stage.

I am also delighted to inform you of a further promotion in the Trust. Mrs Alex Burrell, currently the headteacher at Lingwood Primary has secured the headship at Heartsease. This is a fantastic opportunity for Mrs Burrell, the staff and the children. Earlier in her career, Mrs Burrell worked at Heartsease as a teacher and an Assistant headteacher and so she knows Heartsease well. Heartsease is very lucky to secure Mrs Burrell, under whose leadership Lingwood Primary Academy secured a 'Good' Ofsted judgement in July. I am confident that she and her new team will continue to build on the excellent work already going on at Heartsease to ensure that this academy remains an outstanding provider of education.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr Adam Dabin, the headteacher of Henderson Green and his team, who following an Ofsted Inspection in November, secured a 'Good' judgement in all areas. This follows on from the outstanding KS2 results for the school last academic year. The school has come a long way since it converted to academy status in April 2016 and this is confirmed not only by Ofsted but by rapidly increasing numbers as a stream of new pupils join the school.

Although Mr Dabin **will continue** to be the Headteacher at Henderson Green, we are very excited to announce that he will now also be the headteacher at Lingwood Primary. Mr Dabin is determined to work with staff and parents to secure an 'Outstanding' judgement for both schools at their next Ofsted. This is an excellent opportunity for the pupils of Lingwood, and Henderson alike, for whom Mr Dabin will ensure his schools provide excellent learning opportunities.

Mr Dabin will continue to be assisted by the two non-teaching Deputy Headteachers at Henderson Green (Mr Stuart Walker) and Lingwood (Mrs Caroline Laycock). This provides consistency at both schools whilst giving both deputy headteachers the opportunity to prepare for future headship.

It is with a mixture of sadness and celebration that we congratulate Mr Jordan Risebrow, the deputy head at Heartsease who has secured a promotion to Headteacher at a school outside of the Trust. We are very sorry to lose Mr Risebrow from the Trust but we wish him every success in the next step of his career. Mr Risebrow will leave us on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019. I would personally like to thank Mrs

Porter and Mr Risebrow for all of the work they have carried out to stabilise the staffing and leadership at Heartsease and in creating a dynamic and dedicated team.

Miss Zara Lambert, an Advanced Skills Teacher, who currently leads English across the Trust has been promoted to deputy headteacher at Heartsease. In addition Mrs Jenny Stafford has now returned from maternity leave and has also been promoted to deputy headteacher at Heartsease. Mrs Stafford has worked as a teacher and a maths lead at Heartsease for a number of years.

These changes will take place from **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019**. The heads and deputies will work very closely together over the coming weeks to ensure a smooth and effective handover. Mr Neil Campbell, Mrs Sarah Porter and myself will continue to lend support and capacity to each of the schools.

**To summarise:**

<b>Academy</b>	<b>Headteacher</b>	<b>Deputy Headteacher</b>
Heartsease	Mrs Alex Burrell	Ms Z Lambert and Mrs Jenny Stafford
Henderson Green	Mr Adam Dabin	Mr Stuart Walker
Lingwood Primary	Mr Adam Dabin	Mrs Caroline Laycock
Valley (unchanged)	Mrs Sara Bush	Mrs Clair Gribble
Trust Improvement Team	Mr Neil Campbell Head of Quality Assurance (Performance and Standards) and Mrs Sarah Porter Head of Quality Assurance (Inclusion & Early Years). Mrs Eileen Craig Head of Pastoral and Attendance	
Trust Executive Board	Mrs Christina Kenna (CEO) and Miss Hazel Cabbage (COO)	

This is a really positive and exciting start to the New Year, with 6 members of staff having secured promotion. As a Trust, we strive to create continuous professional development and opportunities to work across all our schools meaning that staff choose to stay with the Trust. Many of our staff are either undertaking or have qualified in a variety of accredited national qualifications and as such are at the leading edge of new teaching research. In turn this enables us to provide an outstanding and consistent education to the children.

You will be aware from the media, that finding excellent headteachers, senior leaders and teachers is a national issue and even worse in more rural areas such as Norfolk. I am sure that you will therefore support these staffing changes that allow the Trust to retain high quality teaching and leadership staff for the benefit of our pupils. The Trust encourages a collaborative approach to securing the very best outcomes for your children, not just academically but socially and morally. We work hard to build on what children already know, and provide them with opportunities they may not otherwise have had. By working closely around our spending with Pupil Premium and Sports Premium funding we have been able to ensure that every child takes part in extra-curricular activities such as Drama in Reception, Karate in Year 1, Individual musical tuition, Skill Force and Bush Craft. Children participate in a variety of sports events and these opportunities will continue to grow. After school clubs continue to be run by teachers in their own time to further broaden the opportunities for our children.

The Trust aims not to just prepare children for the next stage in their school career but to equip them with the skills they need for life. We are fortunate that every member of staff that works for the Trust is dedicated to this aim.

Yours sincerely

Christina Kenna, Chief Executive Officer

The HEART Education Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 08286818.  
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