

31st May 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I trust you and your family have had a lovely half term break.

I am sorry to be writing over the holiday but I wanted to let you know about arrangements we have made to bring in temporary additional leadership capacity at Pathfinder Schools.

We had planned to communicate this with you on Monday but understand information has been posted on social media. I am sorry the news has been shared in this way, and appreciate you may have questions.

Given schools are closed during the half-term break and our regular channels of communication are unavailable as staff are on holiday, we have taken the unusual step of publishing this open letter. A letter from your headteacher will be sent out on Monday.

As you may be aware, the trust's CEO and CFO have been absent for some time and while this is not having an impact on everyday teaching, learning and enrichment in our schools, it does place further pressure on our teams.

To give everyone the support they need while these senior colleagues are off, we have made arrangements for Keystone Knowledge – which specialises in working with Multi Academy Trusts - to join us and provide temporary additional leadership capacity. Their CEO, Stephen Mitchell, who is an experienced former Trust CEO, COO and CFO, will be joining us as Interim CEO; he will be supported by Lauren Colder, who will be Interim CFO.

Please be assured that nothing will change on a day to day basis for your child as a result of this arrangement - they will continue to enjoy the same lessons and activities, with their regular teachers, and you can continue to raise any questions or concerns with your child's headteacher in the usual way.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support to our schools.

Kind regards

Paul Ainsworth
Chair