

## Autumn Updates

#### Dear Parent/Carer,

Pathfinder Schools wish you a warm welcome back to school after what we hope has been a relaxing summer break. The Pathfinder Schools team has been working hard behind the scenes over the holidays and have some important updates to share with you all.

### Welcome to Naseby Church of England Primary Academy

Naseby Church of England Academy officially joined Pathfinder Schools on 1st September, expanding our family to ten academies working together to provide the very best education and opportunities for the pupils within our Trust. We are sure you will join us in wishing everyone at Naseby a warm welcome to our Multi Academy Trust.











#### **Additional Funding**

We are pleased to announce that we have been successful in our bid to secure close to £100,000 of additional funding for Pathfinder Schools from the Department for Education. This is tightly ring-fenced to support us to further strengthen our central services (such as IT and school improvement), so that we can continue to improve the support we give our academies and allow them to provide the highest quality teaching and learning.

# New Director of School Improvement

As part of this exciting period of growth we have successfully recruited our replacement Director of School Improvement. Ashley Izzard-Snape, who has been Executive Headteacher at Rothwell Schools since 2019 and was previously Headteacher at Loatlands Primary School for seven years, will be stepping into this role. He will support all schools across the Trust to share best practice and drive improvement while keeping our values of Collaboration, Humanity and Independence at the heart of everything we do.

### Farewell to Laura Buckley

We are sad to say that Laura Buckley will be stepping down as Headteacher at Loatlands Primary School at Christmas. After leading the school for three years, she is taking some time away from education to spend more time with her young family. Laura has done a fantastic job in her time as Head, securing a 'Good' Ofsted rating in March this year. She will leave a wonderful legacy for a new Headteacher to take on in the next chapter of the school's journey, we wish her all the best for the future.



## A New Era for Pathfinder Schools

Lastly, I would like to share the news that I will soon be retiring as Chief Executive of Pathfinder Schools. It has been a privilege to be one of the founding members of our Multi Academy Trust and to see our group of schools go from strength to strength as Pathfinder Schools continues to grow. This now feels like the right time to pass the torch to a new leader, who will drive forward the next stage in Pathfinder Schools' journey.

Trustees will be working closely with the Central Team to recruit a new CEO who shares our values and ethos by the end of 2022. I will then step down from my full-time position, working part-time to support the

new CEO to ensure a smooth handover.

This truly is an exciting time for Pathfinder Schools, with many new opportunities presenting themselves as we grow together. I would like to thank you for your continued support of your child's academy and of our wonderful Trust community as we look forward to the year ahead.



### How Can You Help Shape the Future?

Our Trust is looking for new Trustees, and our schools need new volunteer governors. If you are committed and passionate about being part of the future development of our schools, we'd like to hear from you.

We offer a full induction programme, relevant training and ongoing support as required. You will have the opportunity to be part of a committed team working together to enhance the education opportunities for our children and to

develop links to our communities.

Whilst we encourage applications from everyone, we would particularly welcome applications for Trustee roles from people with expertise in finance, HR, risk management, safeguarding, strategic leadership and business skills.

For further information please contact **prawlins@pfschools.org.uk**