

May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers & Academy Ambassadors,

## **CHANGES TO THE LEADERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS AT DSLV ACADEMY**

I am writing to inform you that, following a successful couple of years as Headteacher of DSLV Academy, Mr Simon Cotton has resigned to take up a new post as Principal of an Academy in Derby. I know you will want to join me in thanking Mr Cotton for his contribution to the academy and the trust since he joined.

On behalf of the academy trust, I would like to pay tribute to Mr Cotton and thank him for his work. During Mr Cotton's time with us, and under his leadership alongside everyone's hard work, DSLV Academy has improved rapidly from being judged as Inadequate with serious weaknesses to Good in all areas in just 16 months. Mr Cotton has also been instrumental in securing and putting in place new music facilities, and improving parent satisfaction with the academy. The number of parents who would recommend DSLV to others has increased from 33% in 2014/15 to 72% now. Mr Cotton has also worked in partnership with colleagues from the nearby Parker E-ACT Academy and the trust to ensure a collaborative post-16 offer for Daventry E-ACT students.

I am pleased to inform you that E-ACT has appointed Mr Andrew Mackereth to become the next Regional Education Director for Daventry, accountable for the two Daventry E-ACT academies. Mr Mackereth has secured significant improvements in GCSE outcomes at nearby The Parker E-ACT Academy over recent years and we are thrilled he has agreed to take on this new role. There will be a transition period this term for a formal handover. As Mr Mackereth will be leading two academies, Mrs Katie Towers will take up an enhanced role as Acting Headteacher, with day to day operational responsibility for the academy with immediate effect. As you will know, Mrs Towers has been instrumental in rapidly improving the quality of teaching in the primary phase, in contributing to the Good judgements in the recent Ofsted inspection, as well her work as Senior Vice Principal across all phases and is excited by the new role. I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating Mrs Towers on this and wish her success. I know she and Mr Mackereth are both counting on your support and will be in touch to meet with you and hear your views in the coming weeks and months ahead.

I am delighted we have secured Mr Mackereth & Mrs Towers' key roles in the new leadership arrangements for DSLV and am excited already by their plans for taking the academy from good to great as soon as possible. I am also looking forward to seeing closer working relationships, and the sharing of key resources, between the two Daventry E-ACT academies as a result of these changes.

Mr Cotton officially starts his new post in September, and there will be a transition period between now and the end of term for handover. I wish Mr Cotton, Mr Mackereth and Mrs Towers all the best for their new roles and am looking forward to seeing DSLV go from strength to strength in the coming months. They and I thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully,



**David Hatchett**  
**Regional Director of Education, E-ACT**