

1st October 2019



Dear Parent,

I am writing to inform you that I will be retiring from my role as CEO of Aspire Learning Trust on the 31st August 2020.

I have been extremely privileged to have led Sir Harry Smith Community College as Principal from 2008 to 2016 and since then had the wider responsibility for the three schools in the Trust. My aim is that by the end of the 2019-20 academic year, all three schools will be good, the £7.4 million worth of infrastructure projects will be completed and our financial future will be far more secure, therefore I feel that this is the right time for me to step aside, to let someone else lead on the next stage of the Trust's journey.

I have been lucky to work with some wonderful colleagues who have dedicated their lives to helping our children get the very best education that they can. I would like to thank all those who have helped and supported me in all my years both at the College and more recently working with our two primary schools. It really has been a team effort and I have learnt so much from colleagues over the last eleven years.

I would also like to thank all the parents that I have worked with during my time in Whittlesey and it is clear that we all want the very best for the children in our schools.

I have also had the privilege to help and support many fantastic students and young people at the College and our primary schools. At times they have frustrated me, made me laugh and at times, made me cry, both from sadness and with joy. I hope that I have done something, with you, to make their lives better.

Ultimately, I hope that all the schools are better now than they were when I started and that I have left a strong legacy for others to build upon.

The Trustees are working on the succession plan to ensure that they get the right person to continue the work started by Aspire Learning Trust four years ago.

I would like to reassure you that I will be fully focused on my role and responsibilities right up until the end of August 2020, as there is still so much to achieve this academic year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Digby".

Jonathan Digby

CEO
Aspire Learning Trust