



Derrymount School

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Charity Number: 1116073

Finding Pathways to Learning & Living

19th January 2023

Dear families,

Changes to the governance of Derrymount School

I thought it helpful for me to write to introduce myself as your new chair of governors at Derrymount School, and to explain some of the recent changes.

In late 2023, Nottinghamshire County Council secured agreement from the Secretary of State for Education to remove the governing board of Derrymount School and replace it with an Interim Executive Board (IEB). This is not an unusual change, where a school has been found to be "inadequate" by Ofsted.

An IEB's main function is to provide interim expertise and high quality governance to support future improvement in an LA maintained school, which includes the promotion of high standards of educational achievement. The IEB is now the legal governing board for the school.

Given Nexus MAT has been named as sponsor for Derrymount School - and we are in the process of managing the conversion process in order for the school to become an academy - council officers asked if I would be willing to chair the IEB, to ensure that the short term improvements it oversees are in synch with the longer term planning for the school.

I am grateful for the open and constructive partnership of council officers, and it is my privilege to have taken on the role of IEB chair.

The IEB is required to be small in number, and council officers have also appointed the following individuals to its membership:

- Michelle Sherlock – Designated Clinical Officer for SEND, Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board
- Muhammed Saquib – HR Business Partner, Notts County Council
- Jacky Tattershall – Assistant CEO – Quality Assurance & Improvement, Nexus MAT
- Sandra Welsh - Integrated Children's Disability Service, Notts County Council

The IEB members will bring expertise in a range of leadership areas, and I am incredibly grateful for their willingness to join me in this voluntary commitment.

The school website will be updated to include published details of the IEB members in due course, as well as records of our meetings. Our first meeting was held on 17 January 2024.

I am clear we cannot support the school through the necessary improvements without the voice of the workforce, our pupils and their families. To this end, I will be exploring how we can create a systematic means of hearing family and staff voice directly at the IEB meetings.

As the Chief Executive Officer of a public authority, I am required to abide by the Nolan Principles at all times. This means I personally, and the IEB as a collective, must demonstrate the follow qualities in all we do:

- Selflessness;
- Integrity;
- Objectivity;
- Accountability;
- Openness;
- Honesty and;
- Leadership.

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Whilst there are sometimes a need for confidentiality in the work of school governance, I promise you that the above qualities will guide all we do in our work as an IEB and we will be as open and transparent as we lawfully can be.

Fundamentally, we all want Derrymount School to be the best it can be, and the pursuit of that reality – at a realistic and sustainable pace – is what we will be bringing to our work as the governors of this beautiful school.

Thank you for your trust and support, as we move forward together.

Yours faithfully,



Warren Carratt
Chief Executive Officer – Nexus MAT
Chair of the Derrymount School Interim Executive Board.