

Dear Parents,

CEO Update – April '23

Earlier this year I announced that I would be retiring in the summer after 35 thoroughly rewarding years working in education. During the last 12 of these years, I have had the pleasure of working across our schools, with our staff and pupils, along with the privilege of leading our Trust.

Since Churchtown Primary School joined Endeavour in February 2019, it has been a genuine privilege to have you in our Trust. Although already a highly valued school in the local community, inevitably transformation has been taking place. I know that under Mrs Payne's leadership, ably supported by Mrs Adams, this school will remain stable and will continue to go from strength to strength, and that our staff and pupils will continue to thrive.

Nonetheless at Trust level, change is taking place. Any period of change and transition inevitably comes with its concerns and vulnerabilities, and in education this is traditionally a long-winded affair that isn't always helpful. Working with the 'old' whilst looking ahead to and wondering about the 'new' is always a difficult phase to be in, regardless of how hard we work to manage this.

With that in mind, I am pleased to let you know that David Clayton, our new CEO, has been able to secure early availability from his current Trust, so that he can begin working in his new role at Endeavour.

In order for David to begin this role, I have agreed with our Trustees that I should step aside so that David can take the reins straight away. With the new school year looming, this is a time for decisions and forward planning and it is right and fitting that David should be leading this. To support this transition, I will be moving into a senior advisory role until the end of the summer, on hand to support in whatever way I am needed.

It is my honour to welcome David to the Trust and to hand over the very precious responsibility I have enjoyed, to him.

It goes without saying that Endeavour and all of our schools will always have a special place in my heart and I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together and the opportunities I have been blessed with through this role.

My very best wishes to David and to you all in this next chapter.

Lesley Gwinnett

CEO – Endeavour Learning Trust