



**Parkwood Hall**  
CO-OPERATIVE ACADEMY

27<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

I know you will have heard by now of Nick White's retirement at the end of this summer term. We have so much to thank him for in his successful leadership of our school over the years, and I know from the comments many of you make, how much you appreciate his constant care and attention in relation to your children. There will be an opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to him at the summer BBQ at the end of this term.

I wanted to write at the earliest opportunity to advise you of the plans we have to recruit a new Headteacher. Nick White and I have discussed on many occasions the changes to his working life since Parkwood Hall became a stand-alone Co-Operative Academy, with the increased accountability without the supportive infrastructure of a local authority to assist with financial management, human resources, health and safety issues and procurement. We are grateful to Nick and past Governors under the leadership of Bob Walkington for their wisdom in steering us toward the model of a Co-Operative Academy, and we hope to build further alliances with Co-operative schools over the coming months in order to further strengthen our school.

Governors met on 26th April to consider the options for recruitment of a successor to Nick White and we have decided to seek an Interim Headteacher from the beginning of the next school year for a period of one year. This will create the space for Governors to consult widely, including with yourselves, on how we might plan for the school to develop over the next few years, so that we can think carefully about the qualities and skills we are looking for in Nick's successor, and also how we can make use of our grounds more effectively in supporting the lives of your families and the opportunities for your children. Governors are very determined to create a great opportunity for another talented Headteacher to come along and fill Nick's shoes, and we know that this will take some planning to attract the best candidates.

We are fortunate at this time of change to have secured the services of a very experienced ex Head Teacher and Ofsted Inspector, Nick Hind, to work with us through this transition and to assist us in finding the right interim Head. Nick White and Nick Hind will also work closely on leadership within the school so that we make the change as seamless as possible.

So, to conclude, our intention is to employ an interim headteacher from September 2018 – July 2019, and to have a new and permanent Headteacher in place for September 2019. Please do get in touch with either Nick White or myself if you have any queries. I can be contacted via Linda Marsella at [linda.marsella@parkwoodhall.co.uk](mailto:linda.marsella@parkwoodhall.co.uk).

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

*Libby Blake*

Libby Blake  
Chair of Governors