

26th January 2021

**Dear Parent/Carer,**

I hope you are well and had a restful Christmas. As you may recall, Karen Potts, the Chair of The Two Counties Trust, wrote to you in September to share the news that following the retirement of Richard Vasey, the Trust would be appointing a new Chief Executive. I am delighted to have been selected to succeed Mr Vasey, and started this term in this role. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and share some of my background and vision for the Trust going forward.

I would like to start by thanking all parents across the Trust's academies for the support you have given to your children throughout the coronavirus crisis, including all the time you are giving the students to support them with remote learning. Thank you. I was previously an Executive Principal at Dixons Academies Trust, where I joined as a Newly Qualified Teacher in 2001. During my time there, I worked alongside the leadership team, supported many of their excellent schools and led on several Trust-wide projects.

I was Principal of Dixons McMillan Academy in Bradford for six years, and led the school to 'Outstanding' in all areas by 2017. I was also heavily involved in the setting up of Dixons Trinity Academy and Dixons Sixth Form Academy. These projects involved leading construction teams and overseeing Ofsted Pre-Opening Inspections and Readiness to Open Meetings with the Department for Education.

Beyond this work I have provided support to various schools in Bradford and the North more widely on self-evaluation, school leadership and strategies to support students eligible for pupil premium.

I have only been in the role a matter of weeks, but I can see already that there are strong foundations of respect, integrity, and continual improvement, all of which will help us achieve our aim of ensuring all our students receive the best possible education. I will be working closely with leaders across the Trust to continually improve the outcomes of our students in order to ensure they have improved life chances and choices once they have left our care.

I would once again like to thank each of you for your resilience and commitment during this challenging time, and look forward to working with, and for, you and your child.

Yours sincerely,

*W.J. Davies*

**Wesley Davies**

**Chief Executive Officer, The Two Counties Trust**

