



Dear Parent / Carers

You will have already read Clive Zimmerman's communication explaining his retirement as Chief Executive of The Park Academies Trust.

Clive will be a great loss to staff and the Trust Board as a leader and architect in growing The Park Academies Trust to where we are today. It would be true to say that Clive has a passion for education that has made a significant impact on the quality of education available to a great many Swindon children. His involvement with two secondary schools has seen a complete change in fortunes for both the 'old' Greendown and Isambard Community Schools, and, as Lydiard Park Academy and Abbey Park School, they are both well regarded and oversubscribed schools serving West and North Swindon communities.

Clive also had the vision to bring local primary schools into the Trust, initially with Red Oaks Primary School as the founding school for the Primary Phase of the Trust and Rachel Surch as Primary Executive Principal. This strategy was to create a 'transition model' that enables both primary and secondary schools within the trust to work together to ensure pupils experience, knowledge and abilities are supported in a continuous educational path throughout their time within the Trust schools. I am pleased to say we now also have Orchid Vale Primary School within the Trust to join in the sharing of best practice that was started by Red Oaks and Abbey Park Schools.

Part of the Trust's vision, which Clive has clearly laid the foundation for, is to ensure all children get the best education possible by turning their "***potential into performance***" and, despite Clive's departure, this will continue as one of the Trust's key objectives. This approach has been ingrained in the way that our school leadership teams work and I know Clive feels very comfortable that he leaves behind well organised, enthusiastic and capable school leaders who will build on the work that has been started.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees we thank Clive for his leadership, wisdom, determination, and total professionalism he has given the Trust over his many years of service. Clive leaves a legacy of focused and dedicated staff delivering educational standards of the highest quality. On behalf of the Board we wish Clive an incredibly happy retirement and wish all his future ventures provide fun, laughter, happiness, and great memories.

As Chair of Trustees, I can reassure all Parents / Carers that we will not lose sight of our culture and ethos, Clive's legacy built around the values we share will not change, only enhanced as time, opportunities and new challenges present themselves in adding value to educating our pupils across the Trust.

Fred Child
Chair of Trustees
The Park Academies Trust