



De Lacy Pontefract Primary School

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DE LACY PONTEFRACT

PRIMARY SCHOOL

12 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you and your families are all safe and well as we continue to observe the government's lockdown measures. The staff at De Lacy continue to send their best wishes and we know their phone conversations with you and the pupils have meant a lot to them. We continue to prepare for our school to re-open but only when it is completely safe to do so and in line with government guidance. We will let you know the necessary arrangements that will be put in place when that time eventually comes.

We are writing to inform you that the Head of School, Mrs. Gemma Smith, has left the Trust for personal reasons. We know many of you had an excellent relationship with Mrs. Smith and will be disappointed to see her leave. However, we must respect her decision and understand that many people have had a change in their personal circumstances since the beginning of the National pandemic. Mrs. Smith was a key figure in ensuring the school obtained strong Ofsted feedback during the January 2020 inspection. It is clear that De Lacy Primary School has made good progress under her leadership and will continue to do so in her absence. She cared deeply for the pupils and worked tirelessly to support them in any way possible. We wish her all the best for the future in both her personal and professional endeavors.

The Trust will be seeking to make a new appointment to the role of Headteacher at De Lacy in the near future. In the interim period I will be looking after the school with the support of an excellent senior leadership team. We are in a good position moving forward and are eager to get our wonderful pupils back into lessons with us as soon as we can.

Thank you all for your continued support and kind messages over the past couple of months. We will continue to communicate with you throughout the lockdown period with updates as they occur. Like we have said in previous communications, we will come back stronger as a community with renewed resolve to make our school the best possible place it can be for the people who matter most – the children in our care.

In the meantime, please stay safe and look after each other.

Yours faithfully,

Tom Fay
Executive Director of Primary Education

John Beevers
Chair of the School Performance Review Board