

Monday, 03 April 2017

Dear parents and carers,

## **Happy Easter!**

I hope you've all had a great start to 2017. The spring term has gone by so quickly and Kelford School continues to go from strength to strength. Jacky Tattershall is entering her third year of headship and the school continues to push the boundaries of personalisation through the introduction of exciting new curriculum pathways for our children and young people.

As Kelford School continues to grow and develop: so too does Nexus MAT. On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017, we grew by 33% with the addition of Pennine View School; a Doncaster based special school for up to 120 amazing children and young people with moderate learning difficulties.

I am delighted that we have appointed Sarah Mulhall as the new Headteacher of Pennine View School, a post she will take up on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017. Sarah has been a part of the Kelford family for 17 years and leaves an outstanding legacy of her time here. Whilst it will no doubt be a bittersweet process of leaving Kelford, Sarah will continue to work with Jacky and the team as part of the wider Nexus schools improvement agenda.

By September 2017, we will have permanent Headteachers at all Nexus schools and we will be in the process of growing further. We are already expecting to be over our planned pupil numbers by September 2017 which means we are working closely with Rotherham MBC to ensure we can offer as many places as possible without undermining the quality of provision for all of our children and young people. The school site is a big factor in how flexible we can (or can't) be, and a major priority for us over the next 18 months is to secure investment to improve the school building and create more space.

The Government have recently announced that Rotherham MBC will receive an extra £500,000 over the next 3 years (starting in 2018) to invest in more facilities for children and young people with special educational needs. All of the Rotherham special schools

***Learning together; to be the best we can be.***

are full, so we know there is demand for more places. We will be working hard to ensure that Nexus schools get a fair share of this investment.

The local governing body has had a good period of bedding in, with new governors having joined in the autumn. We are in the process of seeking to recruit new parent governors to help strengthening the governing body further. Big thanks to all our existing school governors for all they do!

The future for all of our schools looks really bright: the Multi Academy Trust has allowed us to work together for the benefit of our children and staff, and we have ambitious plans to be even better over for the coming months.

Thank you for your continued support of the school and the Trust: only by working together can we achieve the best outcomes possible for all of our children.

Yours faithfully,



Warren Carratt  
Chief Executive Officer  
Nexus Multi Academy Trust