



23rd February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Temporary Changes in School Leadership

I hope that you and your family are well and that you have had an enjoyable half term break.

I write to inform you of some sensitive and personal news.

From Easter, I have been granted special leave for one year, to relocate to the Isle of Man to care for one of my parents, who is currently undergoing medical treatment. As I hope you will appreciate, this has been an incredibly difficult decision for me to make and especially at this time of national challenge.

I hope to offer reassurance by highlighting future changes that will provide stability in leadership and to ensure that we continue to offer the highest standard of education to your child, as you would expect of us.

I have worked very closely with Jenn Plews, CEO of Northern Star Academies Trust and Bev Ashby, Chair of our Local Governing Body, to ensure strong and steadfast leadership and a continued focus on school priorities moving forwards.

Mark Turner (currently, Headteacher of Skipton Girls' High School) will become Executive Headteacher of both Skipton Girls' and Harrogate High School from Easter 2021. He will be joined by Lucy Greenwood, currently our Deputy Headteacher who will take on Acting Head of School from Easter.

I have worked very closely with both Mrs Greenwood and Mr Turner; they are very experienced senior leaders who will be ably supported by a strong and highly collaborative senior leadership team who share the vision and values that are completely aligned to that of Harrogate High School. All communication with parents/ carers will continue through existing channels.

Words cannot express how fortunate I feel to have worked at Harrogate High School for fourteen years. I take inspiration each day from your children and the incredible staff team and community at the school. Whilst I may not be close in proximity from Easter, I will continue to take great interest in how our students are progressing socially, emotionally and academically. And, I will be keeping in close communication with the Trust and Senior colleagues throughout the year.

On Wednesday, I will be sharing the news with students via a live briefing, to ensure that they are aware of the future changes.

I would very much like to thank you for your continued support of the school.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Charlotte Clarke
Academy Head

