



The Collegiate Trust

Exceptional Education for All

15th December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

CEO's Update 2 – Autumn 2022

As we come towards the end of a very busy and successful term, I wanted to write to parents with some updates on our work. As you know, our Trust today is a family of seven schools in Croydon and Crawley who choose to work together because of their common belief in what constitutes *an exceptional education for all* and their commitment to working in partnership in order to deliver something even better together than they would be able to alone. I am excited to inform you that following a thorough exploration of the benefits of working with us, the governors at *Woodcote High School* and *Ifield Community College* have both made in-principle decisions for their schools to join *The Collegiate Trust*. After consultation and the necessary approvals, we shall look forward to welcoming both schools at some point next year. The addition of two more popular secondary schools, one in Croydon and one in Crawley, will both strengthen our Crawley hub and enhance the opportunities for secondary collaboration, in particular. I shall update on progress next term.

Earlier this term, we were delighted to welcome over 4000 visitors to our schools, all looking at our provision in Reception, Year 7 or Year 12, in particular, and considering whether a school in *The Collegiate Trust* may provide the best place for their child. Whilst the deadline for applications for secondary places has now closed, applications for primary places can still be submitted until 15th January 2023 – please let your friends and family know, especially if you would like to recommend your child's school to others.

Over the last couple of weeks, it has been great to be able to spend time in our schools for Christmas events. The confidence of our pupils, especially our very youngest children in Reception and Key Stage 1, in singing, remembering their lines and performing for an audience has been incredible to see! Providing opportunities for creative and cultural learning is a key part of delivering *an exceptional education for all* and I have been really pleased that we have been able to reinstate this important part of our work at this time of year. I must especially thank our team at Courtwood Primary School who, on top of the Christmas festivities and the snow, have also managed an OFSTED inspection in this last week of term! We look forward to sharing the inspection report when it is published in the new year.

Sadly, I must share the news that Dr David Dibbs, Headmaster at Riddlesdown High School 1987-2006, passed away suddenly last week. Whilst most in our communities today will not have known him personally, as the longest serving Head at the founding school of our Trust, he will always be an important figure for us and his legacy will continue to be felt for many years to come. Our sincerest condolences to his family.

Finally, I would want to wish all our pupils, students and their families a very peaceful Christmas break and my very best wishes for a happy and prosperous new year. We look forward to seeing you in 2023.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey
Chief Executive Officer

Registered Office: The Collegiate Trust

A: Honister Heights Purley Surrey CR8 1EX
T: 03300 100 701
E: admin@tct-academies.org
W: www.tct-academies.org