

5th December 2024

Subject: The appointment of our new Principal and Regional Director

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we approach the end of a busy and successful term, I am writing to share some positive news about the leadership of The Portsmouth Academy (TPA).

As you may know, we have been working hard to find the right person to be our new permanent Principal and lead The Portsmouth Academy into its next chapter. I am excited to tell you that, starting in January, Mr. Daniel Botting will join us as our Executive Principal and the Trust's Regional Director for the South.

Mr. Botting is a very experienced headteacher and an Ofsted inspector. He has learned a lot from working with schools across the country. Although we are bringing in a new leader for The Portsmouth Academy sooner than expected, I and the Trust's leadership team are sure that Mr. Botting is the right person to lead TPA and keep building on the great progress we've made since the summer.

To reassure you, I will work closely with Mr. Botting during the spring term to help him settle into his new role and make sure everything runs smoothly for our pupils and staff. The Trust's leadership team and I will keep supporting him throughout the year to make our school even better and give every pupil the best education possible.

Mr Botting is really looking forward to meeting all our wonderful pupils, staff and families. As such, we are in the process of arranging opportunities to meet Mr Botting throughout Term Three. We already have some parents' evenings scheduled for different year groups which serves as an excellent opportunity.

Ahead of starting his role, Mr Botting would like me to share the following message:

"It is a great privilege to be joining The Portsmouth Academy as Executive Principal. My aim is to deliver an excellent education for every pupil at TPA. I believe firmly in the power that education has to transform pupils' life chances. From my experience as a headteacher, and from my own personal experience, I know the difference a great school can make to a young person's life.

"In my current work for Ofsted, I have the chance to explore the work of schools across the South East. I see the many different ways that schools are helping pupils to achieve their full potential. At TPA, I will draw on this and my wider leadership experience to make sure that we give every pupil the chance to succeed academically and personally."

This is an exciting step for The Portsmouth Academy, and I want to thank you for your support as our school continues to improve, especially with attendance and behavior. It's great to see the school progressing well, and

I'm confident Mr. Botting's leadership will help every pupil and strengthen our values of Aspire, Achieve, and Respect.

Your continued support of our academy is invaluable, and I would like to reassure you that the brilliant work from our team will continue to positively support your child in being the best they can be.

If you have any questions or thoughts, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Warm regards,



Mrs. Michelle Smith
Executive Principal and Regional Director (South)
The Portsmouth Academy