

Dear parents and carers

Appointment of Principal and Executive Principal

As you may have read from my recent CEO autumn newsletter, we have been recruiting for a Principal for Upton Heath C of E Primary School and an Executive Principal for Clutton C of E Primary School and Little Sutton C of E Primary School. After a rigorous recruitment process, I am pleased to let you know that we have appointed to both positions, commencing from January 2020. Mr Conrad North will join The Samara Trust as Principal of Upton Heath and Mrs Zoe Carciero will join us as Executive Principal of Clutton and Little Sutton.

As parents at Upton Heath will be aware, Mrs O' Leary-Davies has been Interim Principal at Upton Heath C of E Primary School since the formation of The Samara Trust in March 2018. Mrs O'Leary-Davies took on the Interim Principal role from her substantive post of Deputy Principal. In light of the new appointment, Mrs O'Leary-Davies will be reverting to her substantive post. Thus, we do not need to recruit to the post of Deputy Principal. Our thanks and gratitude go to Mrs O'Leary-Davies for her leadership as Interim Principal of Upton Heath over the past 19 months. We are delighted that Mrs O'Leary-Davies will be staying at Upton Heath as Deputy Principal, working alongside Mr North.

At Little Sutton, we have been fortunate to have the leadership of Miss Edwards as Head of School between April and July 2019. Miss Edwards has significant experience as a teacher at Little Sutton and we are grateful to Miss Edwards for stepping into the Head of School role when it was required, and for her efforts in school improvement. We are thankful that Miss Edwards will continue at Little Sutton as part of the senior leadership team working alongside Mrs Carciero.

We would also like to express our thanks to Mrs Julie Boyes who has kindly stepped into the post of Executive Principal for Little Sutton and Clutton between September and December 2019, on secondment from her post as headteacher of Dodleston C of E Primary School. The support of the Diocese and Dodleston Governing Body in securing the expertise of Mrs Boyes, albeit temporarily, is greatly appreciated.

With these key appointments, we will bring greater stability to the leadership of our schools, build even stronger relationships within our communities and ultimately provide better learning experiences for our children. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce our new principals and I hope you will join me in giving them a warm welcome to our schools.

Principal of Upton Heath C of E Primary School

Mr Conrad North joins us from Werneth Primary School in Oldham, part of the Pinnacle Learning Trust, where he has worked as Principal for three years. With over thirty years of teaching experience, twenty-one of which are at Principal / Executive Principal level, Mr North brings a wealth of leadership knowledge to the post of Principal at Upton Heath. During his career, Mr North has held senior leadership positions at primary schools across Cheshire and Berkshire, been a School Improvement Partner and has also worked as a consultant for companies including Edsential, SYCOL and Ambition School Leadership. I know that he is very excited to be joining the Samara Trust and working with our children and families. We are fortunate to have secured the expertise of Mr North and look forward to welcoming him to Upton Heath in January to work alongside Mrs O'Leary-Davies.



Executive Principal of Little Sutton C of E Primary School and Clutton C of E Primary School

Mrs Zoe Carciero was previously Headteacher at Field Court C of E Academy in Gloucestershire where she led a team of 60 staff through the conversion to an academy, as part of the Diocese Gloucester Academy Trust. Mrs Carciero was part of the team that saw Field Court move from 'good' to 'outstanding', and was also instrumental in developing a nursery provision within the school. With over 20 years of teaching experience, Mrs Carciero states her drive in education is ensuring children are safe, happy and achieving well and believes that children should be inspired and supported when they are learning. All sentiments that I am sure you will subscribe to also, and we are very much looking forward to working with Mrs Carciero in January.



We hope that you will agree that the appointments are a positive step in our journey as a Trust. As ever, we welcome your comments and feedback. Should you wish to get in touch you may do so at feedback@thesamaratrust.cheshire.sch.uk

Mrs Paula Conlin

CEO

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