



# ORMISTON DENES ACADEMY

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12th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are well. We have been delighted to re-open the school to all of our students, and fully appreciate your understanding, patience, and hard work in ensuring this is as smooth a transition as possible.

As a school, we are extremely positive about what the future will hold. As a central part of this, you may be aware that we have been actively recruiting for a new Principal for the school. Therefore, I am delighted to announce that Mrs Kate Williams will be joining the school as Principal for the start of the 2021 academic year in September and will be joined by Ms Rebecca Bramble as her Senior Vice Principal.

Both Kate and Rebecca join us from Flegg High Ormiston Academy in Great Yarmouth, another member of the Ormiston Academies Trust (OAT) family, so they fully understand the principles and values that we hold as a school. In time, both Kate and Rebecca will of course introduce themselves personally to you, as they are extremely excited to get underway, and get to know everyone from the Denes community.

As some of you may be aware, Jim Nixon, who has held the role of Interim Principal since September 2019, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim for his tireless work in supporting and improving the school throughout his tenure. As Ofsted have recognised, the school has gone from strength to strength, and Jim's leadership has been particularly invaluable during an immensely challenging year. He has provided stability and clarity for the school community and I am sure you will all join me in wishing him a very happy retirement.

Kate began her career as a history teacher in 2002 and has worked with OAT schools since 2010. She was previously vice principal at Ormiston Venture Academy, where she was a member of the leadership team which took the academy to an 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating in 3 years.

Having joined Flegg in September 2018, Kate led the school to an excellent series of GCSE exam results in 2019, which saw Flegg achieve results above national averages for all the key accountability measures. What's more, Kate has superbly guided the school through the last challenging year, and fundamentally believes that the circumstances a child is born into should never be a barrier to their potential or opportunities.

I hope this assures you that both Kate and Rebecca will bring with them a wealth of experience, and a fantastic track record of empowering students across the region. Though there is still uncertainty following the pandemic, I am confident that we can all look forward to an optimistic and exciting year to come. Between now and then, Jim will continue as Interim Principal to ensure a successful end to the academic year.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Tina Ellis  
Chair of Governors



@OrmistonDenes



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