



Ref:SM/CS/KB/Welcomeback

Thursday 08 September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: WELCOME BACK!

I wanted to take this opportunity to welcome you and your children back to the new year at Medeshamstede Academy. I am so pleased to have started my new role and I'm looking forward to getting to know all our families.

As you will be aware, there has been a lot of work at the academy over the summer and I want to extend my thanks to the site team for the amazing effort they have gone to in making the physical changes and to the education and admin teams for their work in preparing for the return of the students. Such large-scale changes are never without hold ups and there is still some work to do to get to building to the position we want it to be in but massive strides have been taken.

As Executive Principal my role is going to be support the leadership team with the changes needed moving forwards to address the concerns in practice at the academy and ensure that good and better provision is in place. My role is part time, and, on average, I will be at the academy for a day and a half per week. Charlie Smith is the substantive Principal, and she will be based at the academy full time.

As a little background about me; I have been working in Special Schools for the last twelve years specialising in working with young people with autism. I joined Greenwood Academies Trust in 2017 as the Principal at Purple Oaks Academy. Purple Oaks is in Northampton and support students with autism and/or Severe Learning Difficulties. I'm thrilled to say that Purple Oaks was awarded Advanced Level Accreditation by the National Autistic Society in July '22 in recognition of the high-quality practice in place.

I know that as families you have been through lots of change at Medeshamstede Academy in the last few years and I hope that myself, Charlie and the wider leadership team can start to bring some stability for you. I also know that communication has been inconsistent and, in some cases, not as good as it should be. This is something we want to address moving forwards.

As Charlie mentioned in her letter during the summer holidays, we would like to offer some chances for families to come in and have a coffee and meet us. The sessions will be at the following times:

Tuesday 13th September 9a.m.-10a.m.

Tuesday 13th September 5p.m. – 6p.m.

Wednesday 14th September 2p.m.-3p.m.

Medeshamstede Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust Group of Academies

The Greenwood Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales, registered number 06864339.

A list of Directors is available for inspection at the registered office, Greenwood House, Private Road No 2, Colwick Quays Business Park, Nottingham NG4 2JY.

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Please sign up for a session using the form below, we'd like to limit each session to 20 people so that we've got a chance to talk to you properly. If all the spaces fill up, we will add in some extra sessions. Please don't worry if you can't make it this time, we are planning to run more coffee mornings as the year goes on.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WnSRoNi3ek2yphNZBT1FEIxTMKwO4pVAtfaqklw4vcpUQkhXSUg3UE5INIUzQINQNTZHNfQ2NFFXQy4u>

Thank you in advance for your support, I look forward to working with you.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dash at the end.

Sarah Martin
Executive Principal

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