

26th February 2018

Dear Parents

King Richard School and United Learning

On behalf of everyone at United Learning, we would like to welcome everyone at King Richard School into our group and say how pleased we are that you will be joining us on 1st March.

During this period of transition there has obviously been considerable uncertainty for some people and we would like to thank Gareth Hughes for his calm and steady leadership of the school during this process. We will always be extremely grateful to him for the role he has played in helping secure the future of the school and for his assistance and guidance over the past few months. We know how popular a Head he has been at the school and, like you, we wish him every success in his future plans.

Over the next few weeks we will be working closely with the senior leadership team to finalise our priorities for the coming term and the next academic year both in terms of leadership structure and teaching and learning. This is obviously a vital time in terms of the countdown to external exams and we will not do anything that disrupts students' preparation.

Leading our team will be Ben Antell whom we have appointed as Executive Principal of the school. Ben is currently Executive Principal of our Glenmoor and Winton Academies in Bournemouth, is highly experienced and has worked with United Learning since these schools joined us in 2013. He will be spending the majority of his time at King Richard for the foreseeable future and will be closely supported by other members of United Learning's senior team. Over the coming half term, we will consider what additional leadership capacity, if any, is needed at the school for the longer term so that we have a structure in place that fits the school's specific needs.

We know that parents will be keen to meet Mr Antell so we have organised a parent information evening which you are very welcome to attend. This will take place on Thursday 8th March 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

We will likewise be prioritising ongoing communication with parents so that you are kept fully informed of progress at the school beyond this period of transition.

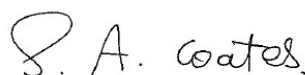
We are excited about the opportunities that King Richard joining United Learning gives us all locally. The school will sit alongside The Victory Primary School and Beacon View Primary Academy and will also work closely with our other southern secondary schools. We are a group that embraces the individual strengths of each school whilst providing the necessary support to deliver a consistently strong education for all our students, training and development for staff, and a wide range of opportunities for both that no school could provide on its own. We look forward to a strong and positive future for King Richard School within our group.

Thank you for your patience over the past few months. We look forward to working with everyone at King Richard School, supporting you in its development and enjoying the strengths that you will bring to United Learning.

With best wishes



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