

All Saints CEVA School

Mill Road, Winfarthing, Diss, Norfolk. IP22 2DZ 01379 642767 office@allsaints-diss.norfolk.sch.uk

Hapton CEVA School

The Street, Hapton, Norwich, Norfolk. NR15 1AD 01508 489395 office@hapton.norfolk.sch.uk

St. Andrew's CEVA School

The Street, North Lopham, Diss, Norfolk. IP22 2LR 01379 687253 office@st-andrews-pri.norfolk.sch.uk

11 July 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I have been alerted to some anxiety amongst some parents. I am writing to assure you that the role of the IEB is to act as governors and as such to ensure the future success of the schools. It is not the intention, nor within the powers, of the IEB to close a school. Indeed, we rely on the confidence of parents to promote the school within the wider community. I am sure that you are aware, it is the withdrawal of pupils which affects the viability of a schools' budget but a federated budget is amongst the three schools. We trust that you will continue to support your child's school.

The rapid changes in leadership of Interim Headteachers and lack of governors has led to a situation which has required several actions and underlying systems to be put into place. The IEB is responding to this background. Miss Price has been working tirelessly and at pace to bring about changes which may have seemed unpopular. Change is hard, but the benefits will shine.

Updating of school policies has been recommended by external reviews so that they are in line with Local Authority and DfE guidance. The expectation is that all headteachers use 'template' policies and letters to address any attendance below 90%, for whatever reason. Personal situations are taken into consideration but the letters remain standard under safeguarding responsibilities.

I am aware of changes in recent school events. Sometimes hard decisions are made on the basis of adequate risk assessments, staffing issues and operational procedures. This term the successful whole Federation visit to Southwold was planned to embed the vision of 'Achieving Together' and to bring a real sense of community for children and staff across the three schools. More enrichment activities are being planned for the new academic year. As an experienced headteacher, I know how important it is to engage parents in the life of their child's school.

The Interim Executive Board and Interim Executive Headteacher will be working closely together and seeking views of staff, children and parents through visits to schools, questionnaires and meetings. We will be updating the website with the improvement action plan, meeting Minutes and letters. This transitional phase of leadership may throw up some 'teething problems' but will lead to a more robust, flourishing federation of schools which are prepared for good inspection outcomes.

Executive Headteacher: Miss Rhiannon Price



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The Interim Executive Headteacher is establishing the baseline on which to build successful school communities for the next substantive Executive Headteacher. The IEB is ensuring a sound foundation for the Saints Federation so that a substantive Executive Headteacher and a local Governing Body can be appointed within the next academic year.

We encourage parents to have faith in the process and to give support to your local school which is a valuable asset in the village community.

Yours sincerely,

KayASwann

Kay Swann Chair IEB The Saints Federation