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Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership

better school no matter where they live. This remains our focus and despite the lockdown, we continue to work on improving schools for children and communities.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to three senior Trust colleagues who will be leaving the Midsomer Norton Schools' Partnership during the course of this academic year. Firstly, Dr Mark Thompson, Deputy CEO, will leave the Trust after 22 years of service. Initially appointed as the senior Deputy Headteacher at Norton Hill, he has more latterly been responsible for school improvement across the Trust. He has been behind much of the success seen at schools like St Dunstan's and Beechen Cliff and was also responsible for the bidding process for the brand new primary school in Midsomer Norton. He has been a fantastic colleague and I will miss him a great deal, not least because of his ability to cut through the endless advice and guidance received from central and local government.

Alison Wyatt the Trust Finance Director, also leaves us at the end of this academic year. Alison began work for us in 1993 at Norton Hill as the Bursar and has gone on to become responsible for the entire Trust finances as Finance Director. As an organisation with an income of over £60 million and assets that run into £100s of millions, this is no mean feat. Alison is an excellent Accountant, Business Manager and problem solver, who has always ensured MNSP has been well-managed financially. I have worked very closely with Alison over the last 10 years and it has been an absolute pleasure and I will personally miss her watchful eye which has kept me in order!

Last week, Mr Andrew Davies announced that he too had decided to leave Beechen Cliff after 16 years as Headteacher. I have rarely come across a leader in any industry, who is so committed to their work and calm under pressure. Beechen Cliff was graded outstanding by OFSTED twice under Andrew's leadership and I was delighted that they decided to join the Trust two years ago. The reputation of the school still remains high, despite some difficult times recently. Having experienced the provision for boys at Beechen Cliff during my fortnightly visits, I know that Andrew leaves the school not only in a better place than he found it, but ready to provide students at the school with opportunities that are second to none.

I wish all three senior colleagues the very best of luck for the future and thank them for their service to education and making schools better for children and their communities.

Thank you to all parents and carers for their continued support – together we have made a difficult and challenging set of circumstances work relatively well.

Yours sincerely

Alun Williams
CEO

