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CEO - Su Whelan

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Dear Parents and Stakeholders

As a Multi Academy Trust (MAT), HISP is ambitious to grow with the intention of supporting more pupils/students, families, staff and communities, and to challenging ourselves that everything we do should improve opportunities for our learners. Growth is considered and measured as we seek like-minded partner schools who share a similar vision. Schools wishing to talk to us, or parents looking for more information about the MAT should access our website for more information hispmat.org/

Since Portswood Primary School and Tanners Brook Primary School joined Thornden Secondary School within HISP MAT in July 2020, we have built capacity as an organisation by successfully adding The Solent Maths Hub (solentmathshub.org.uk/), 2 Teaching School Hubs (hispteachingschoolhub.org/) and now the Science Learning Partnership (stem.org.uk/local-cpd) to our wider Learning Partnership designations. These add to our Research School (researchschool.org.uk/hisp) and School Centred Initial Teacher Training (hampshirescitt.org.uk/) in enabling us to be at the forefront of supporting colleagues into teaching and then meeting their developmental needs as they move forward through their careers. The designation of these partnerships supports colleagues across the region, while also being able to use them internally to support our schools and staff. This in turn supports the progress our students/children make.

With this capacity we are able and ready to invite additional schools to join HISP MAT and have been talking with like-minded leaders and governors to form partnerships and consider formalising some of the links we have made. At this point in time, we are working closely with Highcliffe School in Christchurch 11-18 (highcliffe.school/), Isle of Wight Education Federation (IWEF - Carisbrooke College, Medina College and The Island VI Form) 11-18 (iwef.org.uk) and Test Valley School in Stockbridge 11-16 (testvalley.hants.sch.uk/), who are sharing information with their parents and stakeholders in relation to them joining HISP MAT. Collectively we feel there are many benefits to formalising these connections and are excited about the additional opportunities this will create.

We believe there are many benefits to be achieved with Highcliffe, Test Valley and IWEF joining HISP MAT:

- High quality governance with a clear focus on strategic development, leadership, teaching and learning, and accountability
- Building growth and sustainability through strategic succession planning



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- The opportunity for teachers and support staff to share good practice and to benefit from a common professional development programme that adds real value to the education of all children/students in the MAT
- The ability to work with other schools, in a number of different ways and particularly through the HISP Learning Partnerships
- Efficiencies in administrative functions and joint procurement, which will help us make the most of our resources for the direct benefit of the students

As we make these steps we wish to consult with our parents and wider stakeholders and be able to answer any questions you may have. We have opened a consultation window between 26 May and 27 June for consultation with Highcliffe and Test Valley. We will open a second consultation window between 14 June and 15 July for consultation with IWEF. The consultation will include:

1. Frequently Asked Questions

We have prepared a list of the most commonly asked questions and provided these with initial answers together with this letter. These will be updated weekly based on questions received.

2. Questions/Observations

If you would like to raise any questions, concerns or make representations, please email info@hispmat.org Your engagement is a critical part of the process, and we will group questions into themes as they come in and provide regular answers and updates.

3. Parents and Stakeholder Meetings

We intend to hold a parent/stakeholder meeting at Tanners Brook Primary School on the evening of 16/06 in relation to Highcliffe and Test Valley schools. Please book onto the event by the 14/06. Bookings are made by emailing info@hispmat.org

We intend to hold an additional parent/stakeholder meeting at Tanners Brook Primary School on the evening of 06/07 in relation to IWEF. Please book onto the event by the 04/07. Bookings are made by emailing info@hispmat.org

In parallel with the consultation process we will undertake due diligence on schools considering joining us, as will they on HISP. We will also engage with relevant external bodies.

This is an exciting opportunity as we step into the next phase of our development and hope to create a situation in which we go from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely



Su Whelan

Chief Executive Officer