



# PORTSMOUTH AND WINCHESTER DIOCESAN ACADEMIES TRUST



5<sup>th</sup> February 2018

## **Principal Recruitment – St Francis Catholic and Church of England Primary Academy**

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be aware that we have been advertising for a substantive Principal to lead St Francis Catholic and Church of England Primary Academy from September 2018.

From preparatory work to advertisement, shortlisting and interviewing, this was a rigorous process and involved a number of different stakeholders. Interviews were held within the academy and I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the children and staff for their involvement and who were wonderful ambassadors for the academy. They provided extremely helpful feedback to the panel of Local Governors and Trust Board Directors, who were leading the recruitment process.

I am pleased to inform you that subject to all usual pre-employment checks, the Trust Board have appointed Mr Alex Augustus to become the substantive Principal from September 2018. Mr Augustus is currently Deputy Headteacher at Medina House School. He is incredibly excited about joining the academy and Trust family and to formally meeting and working with the children, staff and parents of St Francis. Mr Augustus will undertake some handover work with Mrs Perkins during the summer term to ensure a seamless transition in September.

Mr Augustus has worked in both the mainstream Primary and Special Education sector over the past fourteen years. His career started on the Isle of Wight and has seen him teach in London, Reading, Windsor and New Zealand. In New Zealand he worked in a school which was regarded as one of the top in the county for academic achievement. He then switched to a successful leadership role in an under privileged community school and successfully worked as part of a team to raise educational standards. After moving back to England, he took the position of Deputy Headteacher in an 'Outstanding' school in London where he obtained his Headship qualification. A leader who is passionate about raising standards on the Isle of Wight, he had always aspired to return to the Island, and did so in 2016 where he joined Medina House School. He is now looking forward to working with the entire St Francis community to build an outstanding school where the ethos and three core Christian values, lie at the very heart of all aspects of academy life.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to Mrs Perkins for her strong leadership of the academy since September, ably supported by Mrs Ridett. Their dedication and focus in working alongside all staff, is ensuring that provision for your children is improving at a rapid rate.

Thank you for your continued support of the academy and assuring you of our dedication and focus to your children at all times.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Johnston', written in a cursive style.

Amanda Johnston (Miss)  
Chief Executive Officer

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