



The Sutton Academy
Together Students Achieve

Principal: Mr P Willerton

31 March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Apologies for writing to you over the Easter holiday, but it is important that I share some information with you.

I am writing to inform you that I was interviewed last week for the Principal post at Priestley College in Warrington and was successful. This means that I will be leaving The Sutton Academy at the end of this academic year. I wanted to share this news with you directly and at the earliest opportunity.

I remain fully committed to my responsibilities and to ensuring continuity and stability for the academy. I am writing to you now to enable as much time as possible for the Trust and the Governors to begin the process of appointing my replacement. I have full confidence that they will appoint an outstanding leader who will build on strong foundations to ensure that academy students continue to flourish.

This has not been an easy decision, but moving to Priestley College is an exciting and unique opportunity. It will allow me to continue my professional development as a leader while remaining within The Challenge Academy Trust (TCAT) and continuing my association with The Sutton Academy - a school that I care deeply about.

When I joined the academy eleven years ago, it was not the place it is today, and I am proud of everything we have achieved together to give the students a school they can achieve in and a place for them to belong. It has been a privilege being the Principal over the last six years and I look forward to still being able to work with the academy in my new role.

Enjoy the rest of your Easter holiday. If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Mr P. Willerton
Principal

