

7<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Staff

### **CEO/Executive Headteacher Appointment – David Etherton**

I am pleased to announce that following an interview process, supported by the diocese, the trustees of BOAT have appointed David Etherton as CEO/Executive Headteacher. As we are a small trust, Mr Etherton will also have some Executive Headteacher responsibility and continue to work alongside senior leaders in St Nicolas & St Mary's and St Andrew's primary schools.

Multi-Academy Trusts, such as the Bishop Otter Academy Trust (BOAT), are required to have a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who is also the 'accounting officer' for accountability purposes.

We are delighted that Mr Etherton will be taking up this role and leading our trust forward as schools begin to join what will be a growing family of schools.

The governors of St Nicolas & St Mary's are now in the process of appointing a permanent headteacher replacement for Mr Etherton who is currently the substantive headteacher. These staff appointments will take effect when St Nicolas & St Mary's joins the trust, which is expected to be on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022. St Andrew's is expected to join BOAT after that.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank governors and staff for all their hard work in their respective schools as they seek to help children 'catch-up' after COVID absences. Teachers recently had a very successful joint INSET day where they could share best practice. The Governors at St Andrews and St Nicholas & St Mary are also working closely together and have just had their second joint in-person meeting.

As you will be aware, the trust is named after Bishop Otter. The inscription below his bust in Chichester Cathedral states:

*"The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable,  
gentle and easy to be entreated; full of mercy and good fruits"* (St. James chapter 3 verse 18)

Our prayer is that as we seek to share that wisdom from above together, we would see much 'good fruit' for our children, churches and local communities.

If you have any questions or comments, please do be in touch with Mr Etherton at [david.etherton@boat.academy](mailto:david.etherton@boat.academy) or myself via [office@boat.academy](mailto:office@boat.academy).

Yours sincerely,



Jenny Barnard-Langston

Chair of Trustees