



# The Parkside School

## Head Teacher's Update



Robert Holderness  
Head Teacher

### Summer Term 2020

Dear parents and carers

As we approach the end of this term, I would like to take the opportunity to share with you the following:

#### **Staffing**

As you know Carolyn Ellis-Gage will be taking over as Head from September. The Senior Leadership Team will be made up of John Habershon, Deputy Head, Fiona Webster-Lee, Assistant Head and I have been asked to return two days a week to continue with the closure of the White Lion Café and other strategic project work to support the Head.

#### **COVID-19**

The effects from the COVID-19 pandemic have had a significant impact on us all, and is something I had not anticipated in my last months as Head Teacher. I am confident in the measures we have taken as a school to ensure that our pupils, families and staff have been kept as safe as possible. I am incredibly proud of the work the staff have put together to support pupils currently not in school.

#### **Parents' Evening**

We are unable to offer parents' evening as normal, and would ask you therefore to email your class teams with any queries you may have regarding your child's progress.

#### **September Opening**

We are currently looking at how we will be able to accommodate all pupils on a part-time basis at school from September. There are a number of options we are considering and hope that we will be able to share with you the outcomes from our continued risk assessment and guide from central and local government advice.

#### **Changes to Primary School**

From September we will have five new Primary Classes, Lion, Rhinoceros, Leopard, Elephant and Buffalo, because we have changed the structure of the primary classes to meet identified need and wished not to confuse pupils.

#### **Pathways College**

I am pleased to let you know that we agreed a short extension to our current lease with the Inspiration Trust, meaning we can offer provision at Pathways for the next two years. We are in the process of looking into a possible new site for use from September 2022.

#### **End of Year Celebrations**

We are so disappointed that our Year 11 students will not be having their traditional end of year celebrations and prom. We have, however, arranged for leavers hoodies which will be given out safely and have postponed prom until it is safe for us

to arrange as normal and give our students the experience they deserve.

### **Final Farewell and Thanks**

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 18 years at Parkside and couldn't be prouder of the pupils, staff and Governors who have all supported me in this role and contributed to the school's 4 Outstanding Ofsted. I wish you all a wonderful Summer break.