

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

**RE: Appointment of Executive Principal for Dartford Primary Academy  
and Cherry Orchard Primary Academy**

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Karen Major as Executive Principal for Dartford Primary Academy and Cherry Orchard Primary Academy, both within Leigh Academies Trust's North West Kent cluster of schools.

Mrs. Major is a very experienced and expert senior leader. She has been instrumental in ensuring the successful merger of St Albans Infants and York Road Juniors to create the biggest primary in the area, Dartford Primary Academy. We are delighted that Mrs. Major has accepted this new and demanding role.

Cherry Orchard Primary Academy will open in September 2017 in brand new premises. It will be the first new school in the Ebbsfleet Garden City. It will attract pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 from the outset and ensure high-standards from the beginning. It will also enjoy a specialist provision for pupils with speech and language needs and a nursery for pre-school-age children. It will become Leigh Academies Trust's fifteenth school.

From early-2017 we anticipate appointing a new Principal for Dartford Primary and a new Principal for Cherry Orchard Primary, both of whom will report to Karen. Both academies will be governed by The Leigh Academies Board, led by David Childs, recently awarded an honorary doctorate from Sheffield University and previously Global Managing Partner at international law firm, Clifford Chance LLP.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Major on her much-deserved appointment. We are excited by the prospect of offering even more high quality school places to children throughout the region.

With very good wishes,



Simon Beamish  
**Chief Executive**  
Leigh Academies Trust