



June 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

You will be aware of governors' recent decision to explore the benefits of academy status for Thornhill School as part of the Consilium Academy Trust. If you responded to the consultation exercise, thank you for taking the time to do so, governors will be considering all views as an important part of this process and will be updating you in due course.

I write today to convey additional information regarding changes to the senior management team which will take effect in September, at the beginning of the new academic year.

After 19 years' service to Thornhill, as Deputy Head, Head and Executive Head Teacher Mr Hallworth; and with 13 years' service as Deputy Head Teacher and Head of School, Mrs Monte, have decided to retire at the end of this summer term. During these periods of dedicated service from its two most senior leaders Thornhill has:

- achieved Specialist School Status
- offered outstanding educational opportunities and worldwide experiences to pupils
- been a founder member of Sunderland's most successful sixth form
- been in the top 100 most improved schools in the country, three times
- been the highest performing secondary school in Sunderland twice in the last three years
- been in the top 6% highest performing schools in the country

Following these retirement decisions, governors have been involved in appointing successors to the leadership team to ensure the quality of educational experience is maintained for pupils and the continuation of Thornhill's high performance.

The new leadership team comprises:

- Mr Redford – Head Teacher
- Miss Luke – Deputy Head Teacher
- Mrs Richardson – Assistant Head Teacher
- Mrs LeRoy - Assistant Head Teacher
- Mrs Crooks - Assistant Head Teacher

I know many of you will have first-hand knowledge of these experienced and knowledgeable members of staff and so will have every confidence in this new team to take Thornhill forward in the coming years.

To our outgoing staff, I would like to express sincere gratitude for their unstintingly loyal efforts on our behalf and wish them all the very best for the future.

Yours faithfully

D Butler

Chair of governors

