

# The Ryedale Federation



Executive Headteacher: Mr Mark McCandless      Chair of Governors: Mr David Dangerfield  
Secondary Director: Ms Domenica Wilkinson      Finance Director: Mrs Helen Coulthard      Primary Director: Mrs Gill Hardacre

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents,

## The Ryedale Learning Multi-Academy Trust

I am pleased to announce that the Ryedale Learning Trust will be formally established on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 when our four existing Ryedale Federation Schools: Ryedale School, Helmsley CP School, Kirkbymoorside CP School and Sinnington CP School will become part of a new Multi-Academy Trust. It has been a privilege for me to chair the current Board of Governors and I am delighted to be asked to continue as Chair of Trustees.

The process of converting from a Federation to a Multi-Academy Trust has taken longer than we expected, due in part to the current Covid-19 pandemic, but we are now very close to completion. The view of the Governors, which has only been strengthened during the conversion process, is that the move to a Multi-Academy Trust is in the long-term interests of our pupils, our staff and our schools, and will build upon the strong and successful partnership we have established as a Federation since 2016.

I am delighted that our current Executive Headteacher, Mark McCandless, and our Finance Director, Helen Coulthard, have agreed to take on the new roles of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) respectively, within the Ryedale Learning Trust.

I am also delighted that Domenica Wilkinson, our Secondary Director, will become the new Headteacher at Ryedale School, and Gill Hardacre, our Primary Director, will take on the role of Executive Headteacher for our primary schools, directly supporting our three Heads of School.

You will see very little change in our schools on 1<sup>st</sup> February, and staff will continue to provide the very best care and education for the children during these difficult times. However, over time I believe we will all see the benefits of the Muti-Academy Trust model.

This is a significant step forward for our schools and we would very much like to officially mark this event, perhaps later in the year when it is safer to do so. Until then I hope that you all stay safe and well, and we look forward to welcoming back all of our young people and staff as soon as we possibly can.

Yours sincerely

David Dangerfield  
Chair of Governors  
The Ryedale Federation

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### Proud to be part of The Ryedale Federation:

**Helmsley CP School**, Carlton Lane, Helmsley, YO62 5HB  
**Kirkbymoorside CP School**, Westfields, Kirkbymoorside, YO62 6AG  
**Ryedale School**, Gale Lane, Nawton, York, YO62 7SL  
**Sinnington CP School**, Friars Hill, Sinnington, YO62 6SL

<b>Head of School:</b>	<b>Mrs Claire Lamb</b>	<b>Tel: 01439 770783</b>
<b>Head of School:</b>	<b>Mr Gareth Sleightholme</b>	<b>Tel: 01751 431517</b>
<b>Secondary Director:</b>	<b>Ms Domenica Wilkinson</b>	<b>Tel: 01439 771665</b>
<b>Head of School:</b>	<b>Mr Neil Roden</b>	<b>Tel: 01751 431725</b>