6 January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you all had a good, and safe, Christmas and New Year and that you are coping well with the current lockdown situation. Please be assured that both schools will continue to provide support and education for its pupils, both online and in-person for the children of key workers and vulnerable students.

It is with great pleasure that I can confirm our school names have officially changed to The West Grantham Church of England Primary Academy and The West Grantham Church of England Secondary Academy. Both schools form part of our new Multi Academy Trust, SNMAT, and we are delighted to be able to introduce them formally and tell you a little more about the new team.

SNMAT are centred on the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham and have 16 schools within their Trust, including us. Their experience of working with schools, and the positive impact that they have on children’s lives, is significant and proven. Their core purpose is straightforward and honest: “We are a vehicle for change that will improve the life-chances of young people as they journey through their education. Our Christian values are up front and central; we focus on knowledge, community, dignity and hope within an educational framework.”

Alongside a new Trust the schools also have a new team:

**Anna Martin**: Anna is the Executive Principal with overall responsibility for three schools, The West Grantham Church of England Primary and Secondary academies, and Magnus Church of England Academy in Newark. She has a proven track record in rapid school improvement and we are delighted to have her as part of the team to support us on our journey towards excellence.

**Clare Barber**: Clare is the new Head of Academies. Clare’s role is to provide daily headship overview and her time is split between primary and secondary. Clare will work strategically alongside Anna, and Trust partners, to ensure improvements are made across both schools.

**Natalie Smyth**: Natalie has taken on the role of Head of Primary and will be the main point of contact for primary, providing direction and support as the Primary phase moves forward. Natalie will move between both sites and, when she is not on one of the sites, a member of the leadership team will be present in her absence.

Alongside Anna’s involvement, the Trust will provide key strategic support, through their partnership network, giving key support for sustained improvement. You can find out more about the Trust, and their team, through their website: [www.snmat.org.uk](http://www.snmat.org.uk).

It goes without saying that I am incredibly pleased with the new direction the school is taking and I look forward to sharing all our news throughout the year. In the meantime, I would like to invite you to an open forum, on Microsoft Teams, this Friday at 1.00pm. Anna, Natalie and I will be there to introduce ourselves and then receive any questions you might have. The link you will need is:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\_MjM0MDMwMTQtMWQ2ZC00MTM3LTg3NjEtY2U0ZTgwNWYyOTMy%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2296aeb55b-5794-461c-8a4b-fa0c6534c665%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22cad3ca91-5b75-4032-b316-f141eb835c57%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3Ameeting_MjM0MDMwMTQtMWQ2ZC00MTM3LTg3NjEtY2U0ZTgwNWYyOTMy%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2296aeb55b-5794-461c-8a4b-fa0c6534c665%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22cad3ca91-5b75-4032-b316-f141eb835c57%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d)

Yours faithfully

Clare Barber
Head of Academies