



The Consortium Trust

Where together excellence and pupils thrive

Parents and Carers
Southwold Primary School
Middleton Primary School
Yoxford and Peasenhall Primary School

30th September 2022

Dear Parents and carers

Academy Head appointment – Yox Valley Partnership January 2023

As you will be aware Miss Gail Jerman has announced that she will be leaving us at the end of the academic term and will be moving back to Wales. Gail has led the Yox Valley Partnership for a number of years and has seen it grow and flourish: including two schools securing Good Ofsted judgments; an overall increase in pupil numbers; opening of a new build and second refurbished EYFS provision; the embedding of a new curriculum with 'scouting in school' at two sites; and the swimming pool development at Yoxford & Peasenhall Primary School. While in education there is always more to do and more to improve, Gail has been a driving force for change and will leave a solid legacy for the next Academy Head to build on.

I am delighted that Mrs Debbie Thomas will be taking on the executive leadership of the Yox Valley schools from the 1st January 2023. Debbie is a successful and experienced Academy Head and will be working closely with the existing Assistant Academy Heads to ensure that your schools continue to develop and improve.

Debbie is currently the Academy Head at Rendlesham Primary and she will retain that responsibility, extending her remit to the Yox Valley Schools. The new leadership structure will enable us to give more time to the existing Assistant Academy Heads to lead the schools at a local level. We are also investing more in classroom staff with a number of new posts created to provide more quality staff to work with your children.

Mrs Thomas will arrange for further opportunities to meet in the coming weeks. I would like to welcome Mrs Thomas to the local team and wish her and the schools every success. I would like to conclude by publically thanking Gail for her efforts and loyalty to the children, schools and Trust over the past 6 years.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne
CEO & Principal