



# Harleston CE Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher: Mr Rob Connelly, BSc. (Hons)

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Diocese of Norwich  
St Benet's  
Multi Academy Trust

6th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

It has been wonderful to have the children back in school today and to feel the positive buzz and energy of our school community together again. I have really been struck, even in a very short space of time, by the commitment of all of the staff and the enthusiasm of the learners. It was great to meet some of you on the gate this morning and I look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks and months. If you haven't yet done so then please come and say 'hello'.

As I mentioned in my letter last week, it is a privilege to be here at Harleston, working with a talented team of people to serve our community. I haven't had the opportunity to properly introduce myself but I hope that you will get to know me over the course of this academic year. I have been a teacher for over 25 years, of which the last eleven years have been in headship. I have had the opportunity to lead a variety of schools, both community and Church of England and I have been involved in school leadership within multi academy trusts, as well as working closely alongside other schools. Outside of teaching, I have lived in the area for over 15 years with my family; my wife, my four daughters and I really enjoy being in this part of the world and the opportunities that it presents.

I am extremely excited about what the future holds for Harleston Primary Academy. The strong staff team that already exists has been enhanced by the new leadership structure; Mr Rob Connelly as Executive Headteacher of Archbishop Sancroft High School and Harleston Primary; Mrs Jane Price, the new Deputy Headteacher; Mr Dan Stagg, our new Assistant Headteacher; and Mrs Laura Botwright, our SENDCo. There is a clear sense of direction and identity in our school and a commitment to the Harleston Federation Vision - A community that flourishes, through God's love, to live 'Life in All its Fullness' (John 10:10 and John 13:34). This vision is underpinned by a very clear set of values, which will run through everything that we do. These values are: hope, perseverance, wisdom, love, respect and faith. This is the language that we will use with our pupils and over the course of the year this will be a fundamentally important thread in our teaching, our learning and our relationship with the community.

Relationships are key. These exist between pupils, staff, parents, governors, the local community and everyone as global citizens. As Head of School I want to make sure that we are talking to one another and listening to one another, as I firmly believe that together we can make an enormous difference and bring about positive change. My intention is that as the year progresses that we will find opportunities to share our successes, celebrate our achievements and promote a unique journey towards excellence.

Very best wishes for the term ahead.

Yours sincerely

Mark Carlyle  
Head of School