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Dear Parent/Carer,

Academy Update

With term 3 now well underway, I wanted to take the opportunity to write to parents and carers in Tamworth with an update, in my role as CEO of the Landau Forte Charitable Trust.

Since I joined the Trust in October 2018, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know staff, students, parents and governors and seeing some of the positive learning taking place in our academies. Over the past few years, there has been some strong improvement and I have been pleased to see the determination of colleagues to continue to drive this progress at all our academies.

As part of this, we have been providing additional educational support to all our academies to further strengthen key areas of teaching, learning and the curriculum. In particular, we are pleased to have welcomed a new Interim Director of Education, Bethan Owen, who is supporting our academies' leadership teams in both Derby and Tamworth.

Over the coming months, however, there will also be some staff departures affecting several of our Tamworth academies. James Robson, Executive Principal across our Tamworth cluster, and Greg Williams, Director of Tamworth Sixth Form, will be moving on from the Trust.

As many of you may know, in his role as Executive Principal, James has worked tirelessly to align practices across Tamworth and build relationships so that staff are able to embrace the opportunities that they have as part of the Trust. James is a long serving member of Landau Forte, having started in Landau Forte College Derby as an NQT in 1996, which just illustrates his commitment and drive. I am sure you will all join me in thanking James for all his hard work as we wish him well for his future.

Greg will also sadly be moving on from his position as Director of the Tamworth Sixth Form in March. Having joined the Trust three years ago, Greg has played a significant role in driving improvement at the Sixth Form, leading it successfully from Requires Improvement to securely Good. On behalf of colleagues across the Trust, I would like to thank him for all his contributions and wish him the very best for the future.

In the short term, our existing Heads of School in Tamworth – Carrianne Robson at Amington and Nick Haddon at QEMS – will continue to drive progress forward with the close support of Bethan Owen as Interim Director of Education. We will then be looking to recruit a joint Principal for Landau Forte Academy QEMS and the Tamworth Sixth Form this year to support the existing Head of School role at QEMS.

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Throughout, as these changes come into effect, our central priority will be ensuring a smooth transition and maintaining the current positive momentum across Amington, QEMS and the Sixth Form. There is still much we want to achieve across the Trust to build stronger links across our schools, deliver stronger outcomes for our students and provide exciting, enriching experiences across their school careers. I am pleased to see progress in all these areas being made at our academies in Tamworth and look forward to working with staff, students and families to develop this work further.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact post@lfatq.org.uk. May I wish you all a very positive remainder of the term.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Findlay-Cobb CEO