

26th March 2025

Exeter Learning Academy Parents, Guardians and Families

Dear Parents, Guardians and Families,

You may recall that I wrote to you in December on behalf of the Trust Board to inform you that Rachel Shaw will be sharing the role of CEO between both ELAT and Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust (DMAT) until the end of this school year. In January the Trustees, Members, LGB Chairs (or representatives) and Head Teachers met to discuss and agree the future of our Trust and specifically what kind of CEO we therefore felt would be right for us moving forward.

Following a detailed and rigorous assessment and interview process at the beginning of this week, I am delighted to inform you that Chris Briggs, who is currently a Regional Director of Education at St Christopher's Multi Academy Trust, has accepted the role. Chris brings with him a wealth of school improvement experience, a proven track record, boundless enthusiasm, real strategic vision and above all an innate sense of service. He is also very local and genuinely rooted in one of our schools' communities. We therefore believe he is an exceptional fit for our Trust who will continue to drive improvement in the quality of education for your child(ren) relentlessly and we are very much looking forward to working with him.

Chris's start date is now to be confirmed, but is most likely to be September in accordance with our original expectations. He, Rachel and I will be meeting in the coming weeks to agree the detail of the transition process and we will keep you informed.

Yours sincerely,

Suzannah Curtis

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Chair of Trustees, Exeter Learning Academy Trust