

19th August 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are keeping well and that your child has been enjoying the summer break.

I am getting in touch to share the news that Nia Salt has decided to leave her post of Principal. We would very much like to wish Nia well, having decided to leave her post at Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy after seven years as Principal. She will not be returning in September. Nia has decided to continue her career closer to home, and to prioritise her health and family.

I know this will come as a surprise to lots of you, as Miss Salt has been an integral part of the academy for many years. It has not been an easy decision for her to make. I know you will all join me in wishing her the very best in her next steps.

I appreciate that you may have some concerns about the future leadership of the academy, and I am pleased to inform you that Simon Glover has been appointed as Interim Principal, starting from September. We are confident that he will do an excellent job in continuing to build on the strong foundations in place.

Simon will be closely supported by Rod Hughes, an Education Director at OAT. Rod is an experienced leader, having been a successful Principal in two OAT schools, and will be based at Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy two days a week for the coming term. Alongside Rod, Simon will have the support of the wider OAT team, as well the strong senior leadership team in place at Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy.

We will be working to appoint a permanent Principal for January 2023 following a robust recruitment process, and we will update you as soon as we have further information to share.

Mr Glover as new Principal will be in touch before the start of the new term. I also enclose a letter from Miss Salt, who wanted to write to you all directly in light of this news.

I hope that you all enjoy the summer holidays with your children, and we look forward to welcoming them all back in September.

Many thanks,

Rob Pritchard

National Director of Education
Ormiston Academies Trust

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Dear All,

By now you will have been made aware that I shall not be returning as Principal in September. It is with great sadness that I have decided to leave Ormiston Ilkeston Enterprise Academy after 7 years as Head and not a decision I've reached easily. However, it is the right decision for me and my family, as I've decided to focus on making my health and my family my priority immediately and continuing my career closer to home. Travelling the long distance to the academy on a daily basis has become more difficult over time.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the staff and students that I have worked with and taught over the years, whom I have deep affection for. I am exceptionally proud of what they have achieved, and that the academy has become the school of choice in Ilkeston from a place of previous insecurity. This is down to the wonderful group of staff who always have the best interests of the children at their core and the support of the parents and the community of Ilkeston who value education and respect the hard work of their school staff and the difference working together can bring.

I also want to thank Ormiston for the support and opportunities that I have had during the last 12 years and to give reassurance that despite my leaving at this time, the academy is in good hands being part of one of the largest Academy Trusts in the country.

This has been a truly hard decision to make. Working as Principal at OIEA has been one of the sincerest privileges of my life and I will never forget the incredible improvements we have made and the wonderful, welcoming vibrant community of whom I have the utmost respect for. I will, of course, never forget the talented staff and children who have always inspired me and brought me the greatest of joys. It is not often that a Principal can say that they have had an entire staff that they love working with. Never was I more proud than being privileged enough to be a leader during the pandemic and being part of a key worker team who was inspiring in and out of the academy and who were there for families when other services could not be. I will miss the leadership team and thank them for working with me on our vision, and even when things were tough, for being amazing leaders and keeping smiling through.

I know that with this staff body and the continued support of Ormiston, the academy will continue to go from strength to strength. I will miss everything about this special place to work.

I leave with a heavy heart but at the same time, with excitement for what the future may bring.

Nia