



# Parkfield School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

## **Parkfield reaches for the stars**

I have now been at Parkfield for just over a year. During this time I feel that we have made good progress towards our targets. We successfully moved into the new buildings, delivered very good results in EYFS, KS1 & KS2, and we have improved the quality of teaching and learning.

In discussion with the Interim Academy Board (IAB) which provides governance for the school, it was clear that the school would need to find a suitable partner for the coming years. After many months searching and discussing the options, we have finally found a potential sponsor we believe is a very good fit for the school.

Just over a week ago the board of Reach South Trust formally agreed to pursue the sponsorship of Parkfield School.

Reach South is a relatively young Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), however it has a fine pedigree, emerging as the sister trust to REAch2, one of the most successful MATs in the country.

Reach South was formed in Plymouth two years ago and looks after 11 schools currently with more looking to join during the near future.

Two other local schools, Hill View Academy and Malmesbury Park Academy, both in Bournemouth, joined the Reach South Trust in March this year.

The Trust has formally agreed it would like to pursue the sponsorship of Parkfield following a detailed due diligence exercise.

Dean Ashton the CEO of Reach South said: "We are delighted to be involved with Parkfield. The school has been through challenging times in its early years, but the future looks very bright indeed. Parkfield is a very good match for us in Reach South, its values are very well aligned.

"As you may know, we have recently taken on two very successful schools in Bournemouth, the potential for meaningful collaboration is very significant and I know that discussions are already beginning."

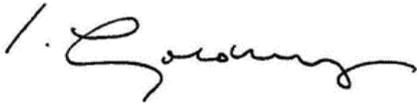
Consultation with you, our parents and carers, is the next stage in the process of joining the Trust and in order to facilitate this process we would very much welcome your feedback and support.

It is our intention to organise a meeting in which Reach South will talk about their vision and values, whilst describing a possible future for Parkfield. This will also give everyone a good opportunity to hear from Dean Ashton and to ask questions. We will also ensure that governors and members of the leadership team are present to contribute to the discussion. We will inform you of a date as soon as possible.

It is hoped that following the consultation and after seeking the approval of the Department for Education, Parkfield can become part of Reach South in September 2018.

As I write this, the snow is finally beginning to melt away and once again we can turn our minds towards spring. The timing of this partnership is perfect, and as we see nature around us bursting into life we can begin to imagine a new future for ourselves as a settled confident school working closely with others in a family of schools.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'I. Golding', with a stylized, cursive flourish at the end.

Ian Golding