



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wednesday, August 4, 2021

I am delighted to be writing to introduce myself, Nic Watkin, as your new Head of School from September. I am privileged to have been appointed by the governing body and the NOVA Education Trust in this role and feel honoured to take the opportunity to continue to lead The Suthers School through the next exciting phase of its development. I would like to pay tribute to the great work Mr Pettit has undertaken over the last 4 years where he has worked tirelessly to establish a culture and ethos where character strengths and academic excellence go hand in hand; I know he will be greatly missed by the students, staff and parents and carers.

Having worked for the past 5 years at Newark Academy, latterly as Deputy Headteacher leading the Quality of Education, I am passionately committed to education in Newark. I believe every child deserves the best education possible so they can become the best version of themselves. By providing a balance of academic and pastoral care, I want to enable and support all children to make the right choices once they leave The Suthers School ensuring they have the social skills to be happy and confident citizens and are successful in all they do.

I was attracted to the position of Head of School at The Suthers School as a result of a clear ethos and culture built around strong values and a character-focused approach. The values of TORCH, alongside our mantra of 'Work hard; Be Kind', embody the character strengths and success that I aspire to for all young people in my care. I endeavour to ensure that all children develop the knowledge to achieve and succeed through a well-crafted curriculum which is accessible to all. My vision is to ensure students love learning by providing positive experiences inside and outside of the classroom to build character and to allow them to grow and flourish whilst exploring their interests. I will continue to work with dedicated staff and external partners to provide opportunities for enrichment through an extra-curricular programme which delivers exciting new experiences for children to explore.

I am excited to be able to continue to develop the excellence which already exists here and I am confident and determined that The Suthers School will continue to go from strength to strength. I am hugely fortunate to be able to work with a group of experienced and dedicated governors as well as an enabled and committed leadership team and talented group of colleagues. I am grateful for the support I have received through 1:1 conversation with Mr Pettit, governors, staff and students to enable this smooth transition.

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Whilst we are currently working hard on finalising our plans for September, I am keen to hear from parents and carers too as I place great value in the importance of home and school partnership which I am looking forward to developing in the weeks and months ahead.

Further correspondence regarding the start to the autumn term will be sent via email in the next few weeks.

I wish you all an enjoyable summer and look forward to meeting you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Nic Watkin
Head of School
The Suthers School