



10 February 2014

**Fred Corbett**  
Executive Chairman of DNEAT  
Diocesan House  
109 Dereham Road, Easton  
Norwich NR9 5ES  
Tel: 01603-882357  
Fred.corbett@dioceseofnorwich.org  
www.dneat.org

Dear Parents and Carers,

***Moorlands Church of England Primary Academy: Leadership***

We are finally in a position where we can let you know about the leadership arrangements at Moorlands Primary for next term (January 2014). We're sorry not have been able to do so until now. Several pieces of the jigsaw have only been finalised in the past few days. Negotiations with individuals and with their current, respective schools have been continuing right up to the wire.

As you may be aware, Mrs Dawe is employed by Norfolk County Council (NCC), not by the Diocese's Academy Trust (DNEAT). NCC has concluded it needs Mrs Dawe back in her traditional role as a County Headteacher so that she's available to go at short notice into a succession of Norfolk schools which are in urgent need or experiencing particular difficulty. We bid her a fond and grateful farewell.

And Mrs Kett's contract comes to an end on December 31<sup>st</sup>. This was a contract negotiated originally by NCC. Although Mrs Kett was asked if she would like the opportunity to continue in her role at Moorlands she was unable to stay due to prior work commitments.

It goes without saying that DNEAT places on record its sincerest possible appreciation to both Mrs Dawe and Mrs Kett for everything they have done and contributed at Moorlands during their time there and in helping to oversee its transition into an Academy with the Diocese.

From next term, DNEAT will be placing its own equivalent of a County Head at Moorlands: Mrs Sue Sweet. Like Mrs Dawe, Mrs Sweet has been a member of NCC's County Headteachers' team up until this term. From January, she will be employed by DNEAT. We couldn't be more delighted to welcome Mrs Sweet into our squad and family. Nor could we have more confidence in her ability. She is not only immensely experienced (she is a former headteacher of a school in Norfolk and has served at several schools as a County Head); she is also ideally placed to come to lead Moorlands as her most recent placement in a church school in Norfolk has seen her lead that school out of Ofsted Special Measures and on towards academy status with the Diocese.

Cont'd.....



Another official monitoring visit only recently praised her leadership of that school and the difference it had made in transforming its situation. Mrs Sweet is therefore very well-equipped for assuming the mantle of leadership at Moorlands and in helping the school to continue its journey of improvement.

To succeed Mrs Kett, Mrs Sweet will be joined by two further members of the senior leadership team; both serving Deputy Heads in Norfolk schools. Ms Karen Bygrave comes from another church school; and Mr Jonathan Coy comes from another Norfolk Primary School which has already converted to academy status. So, again, we hope you can see how much thought has been given to seeking the right sort of people, and a good blend of experience and knowledge, for the on-going challenges and opportunities which exist at Moorlands. Ms Bygrave and Mr Coy will join Mrs Sweet and other members of the staff team at Moorlands in providing the leadership required under Mrs Sweet's and DNEAT's direction.

The Trust is delighted by these arrangements and by the level and extent of support which it has been able to secure for Moorlands. We hope parents and staff will share our optimism, and will continue to support the new leadership team as effectively and loyally as they have Mrs Dawe and Mrs Kett. Our aim is for the arrangement to last for the next two terms. Like parents and staff, we all recognise the benefit in the children enjoying stability and continuity. We are aware of the number of different headteachers which the school has had during this school year through a succession of unfortunate circumstances beyond anyone's control.

Members of the interim governing body, working with the Diocese's Trust, have already started the process of seeking to recruit a new permanent headteacher for Moorlands. The advert is due to appear nationally just after the end of term, with the intention of interviewing candidates at the end of January.

I close by again expressing the gratitude of all to Mrs Dawe and to Mrs Kett; and, indeed, to the staff team and all those in the parent body and community who have continued to support the school throughout this past term. May we wish you and all yours a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours,

**Fred Corbett**  
**Executive Chairman of DNEAT and Chair of Governors**