

20<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to introduce myself as the newly appointed Executive Principal of West Vale Academy. It is with great enthusiasm that I start this journey to work with Mrs Akroyd to lead the school, furthering high standards for the children and wider school community.

I have been the Principal at The Greetland Academy for over six years and have worked with staff in school to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our children. As a team, we ensure that all children receive an excellent education every day, which both celebrates academic achievement and also promotes well-rounded character development. At present, The Greetland Academy is graded outstanding by OFSTED and sits within the top ten percent of schools for academic achievement. I also have responsibility for the Trust designations (the SCITT, English Hub, Research School and Medical Needs Provision for Kirklees ) and know that this link will be extremely beneficial to West Vale.

As Executive Principal, I believe in fostering a collaborative and inclusive environment where every member of our school community feels valued and is supported to reach their potential, and that both schools work well together continuing the high standards of Great Heights Academy Trust. I know there will be collaborative projects and initiatives between West Vale and Greetland, but I am also keen to recognise both schools as successful in their own right.

I have visited West Vale Academy - and worked with the staff and children – many times during my time at the Trust. Each time, I have been warmly welcomed by all, and have been impressed by children’s clear enjoyment of school. I am excited about the opportunity to get to know children, staff and families more closely, and passionate about children’s wellbeing while allowing children to have fun and flourish during what I believe should be the best years of their education.

I look forward to meeting many of you to learn more about the school - its strengths, challenges and aspirations. Your input and support are invaluable as we work together towards our shared goal – the best outcomes for our children. I will be meeting with Mrs Akroyd regularly and will split my time between West Vale and Greetland in the new term.

It is an honour to be joining West Vale Academy and I am eager to begin contributing towards its continued success.



With best wishes,

Mrs Helen Crowther

Executive Principal