

Date: 20th January 2022

Re: Changes to the senior leadership structure here at Wapping High School from Sept 22.

Dear Families,

I hope you are well and staying safe. I think we can all see the encouraging signs that we can finally be more optimistic than ever, that we are emerging from the pandemic together and at last beginning to get back to normal.

I am writing to inform you of a change in senior leadership here at the school and in the Wapping and Shadwell Secondary Educational Trust from September 2022.

From September 2022, my role will change from Headteacher to Executive Headteacher. This will allow me to continue as strategic lead at the school but also allow me more strategic developmental time within the school's Educational Trust as is the expectation of the Department of Education for all English Educational Trusts.

Families should note that, working with our Governors, I will still retain overall responsibility for the philosophy and performance of the school. However, from the students', and your own perspective, it will still feel very much like 'business as usual'.

This new split role will mean that I will only be physically present at school between 2, or up to a maximum of 4, days every week meaning that there will be a need to recruit a full time Head of School who will directly manage the school under my leadership on a day to day basis.

This is a tried and tested arrangement used in many other schools and academies and I am very familiar with the structure from my previous and successful Executive Headship in the North West of England.

This new Head of School post will be advertised both internally and nationally to ensure we generate a strong field of candidates for this important and exciting role.

I will contact families again towards the end of February and update you all on the recruitment outcome here.

Finally, I'm hoping you see this as good news for the school's continuing journey forward and please do capture the key idea that this will feel like very little has changed in terms of a day-to-day school experience here for our students. If you have any questions you would like to ask with regard to next year and this change in leadership structure, then I, or Dr Kerstyn Comley our Chair of Governors, would be happy to answer them for you if you contact the school on headteacher@wappinghigh.org.

Best wishes and thanks



Gary Nelson
Headteacher

cc. Dr Kerstyn Comley
Chair of Governors