

St Matthew Academy

St Joseph's Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0XX

Headteacher: Ms Miranda Baldwin

Head of Primary: Ms Joanna Chick



6th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. It is with mixed emotions that I write to inform you that after eight fabulous years of serving as the Headteacher of St Matthew Academy I have made the decision to step down from my position at the end of this academic year. I will be leaving in August 2024 to spend some time travelling. As some of you know, I have a passion for the outdoors so I am going to climb up some mountains, ski down lots of them and have some amazing adventures across the globe!

This has not been an easy decision for me, as the time I have spent here has been incredibly rewarding and enriching. The support, dedication, and commitment of the pupils, staff and parents has been the driving force behind the successes we have achieved together. I am immensely proud of the Academy – it is a truly inclusive, high performing school, which serves families from the local Lewisham community. SMA is a place where pupils feel safe and happy, where they enjoy learning, knowing staff will go above and beyond to ensure they make the most of the education that is offered to them. Our school motto *'let your light shine'* really is lived out daily by our pupils and staff.

I have every confidence in the SMA staff and the leaders within the Academy that they will continue to take SMA from strength to strength. The Governing Body will be overseeing the recruitment of a new Headteacher early next term, who will start in September 2024, to build on our success. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout my time at St Matthew Academy - I will always appreciate my time here and never forget so many memories that have been made here.

SMA is a really special place. It is a special place because of the pupils and staff that make up the school. That will remain the same, and I look forward to reading and hearing about continued successes long into the future. I wish you and your family and the wider community all the very best for the future.

With best wishes,

Ms M Baldwin
Headteacher