

Dear Parents and Carers

November 14, 2017

I wanted to share with you personally some important news about the leadership arrangements at John Cabot Academy, which have taken effect today.

Following a period as Principal of the Academy, Simon White has decided to resign from the Cabot Learning Federation. I am sure that you will join me in thanking Simon for his hard work and commitment during his time at John Cabot Academy and wish him well for the future.

This sudden news will of course be a surprise, but should not be a cause of alarm. The school has an able and stable senior leadership team who will now welcome Sally Apps, Executive Principal, as the school's Headteacher. Before taking up the post of Executive Principal this year, Sally was the Principal at Bristol Metropolitan Academy, part of the Cabot Learning Federation, which, under her tenure, became one of the most consistent highly performing schools in the South West. Sally has a strong record of school improvement and, having worked closely with colleagues at JCA since September, has a good knowledge of our local context. She remains a part of the Cabot Learning Federation Executive Team and will bring to bear her expertise in her leadership of the school.

Sally will be available during the forthcoming Parents' Evenings to talk with parents of students in any year group who wish to attend. There will also be a meeting on Monday 27 November, from 6.00pm – 7.00pm, during which you may wish to ask questions and get to know Sally.

Yours sincerely



**DR DAN NICHOLLS**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**  
**CABOT LEARNING FEDERATION**

Dear Parents and Carers

November 14, 2017

Following the news of Simon White's departure from John Cabot Academy, I wanted to introduce myself formally to you and to take the opportunity to share with you a little about myself.

I began my career as a Teacher of English in schools in Oldham and Stockport, before moving to the South West in 2011 to take up the role of Vice Principal at Bristol Metropolitan Academy. When Steve Taylor was promoted to a senior position within the Cabot Learning Federation in 2013, I took on the leadership of Bristol Metropolitan Academy. In 2014, the school was ranked third in the country for progress and Bristol Metropolitan continues to go from strength to strength.

Since September this year, I have been Executive Principal in the Cabot Learning Federation and I have worked closely with John Cabot Academy. I have developed a strong regard for the staff and students at this school over that time; there is a great deal of potential for future success and many of the foundations have been laid by the senior team here, who as you will know are a very strong team.

I consider it a great privilege to lead this Academy; as a parent, I understand that when you send your child to school you put a great deal of trust in the school leaders and their staff team to keep your child safe, supported and able to learn. It is a responsibility I take seriously and care deeply about.

I look forward to meeting you in person in due course, and to sharing with you in the successes of your children as they undertake their journey through school and into adult life.

Yours sincerely



**SALLY APPS**  
**EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL**