

Transfer of management of Piper's Vale Community Primary School

1 September 2017 – Piper's Vale Community Primary School in Ipswich is the latest school to be transferred to the management of Paradigm Trust. The transfer was effective from 1 September 2017. The school's new name is Piper's Vale Primary Academy

Piper's Vale, which has been rated by Ofsted as Requires Improvement since 2 March 15, is being transferred at the order of the Department for Education. Paradigm Trust was chosen as Piper's Vale's sponsoring trust because of its local connections and strong track record in improving failing schools.

Paradigm Trust already runs Ipswich Academy, which has just achieved its best-ever GCSE results, and took over Murrayfield Primary Academy in January this year. Piper's Vale and Murrayfield both feed into Ipswich Academy. Paradigm Trust also manages three primary schools in London (two of which are rated Outstanding by Ofsted and the other Good with three Outstanding features).

Ben Carter, the principal of Paradigm Trust's Culloden Primary Academy in London, will be the executive principal of Piper's Vale and will work alongside the headteacher Paul Arch.

Ben Carter said: "Paradigm Trust's aim is to give children the educational opportunities they deserve. Pupils at our existing schools benefit from greater life chances based on high expectations, and I am confident we shall be able to do the same for the children at Piper's Vale.

"I have met a number of Piper's Vale parents/carers and have been heartened by their openness and willingness to embrace change, however I also understand that change is unsettling. I would therefore like to assure all parent/carers that where there is recognised good practice this will continue. My focus and that of the Trust is to take immediate steps to raise the quality of teaching and educational standards. Parents/carers will be kept informed of our progress as and when changes are made.

"Since July I have visited the school on three occasions, visited all classrooms and have already begun to work with Paul Arch and his leadership team. Paul will continue as headteacher, while I will be responsible for coordinating input from the Paradigm central improvement team so that we deliver the outstanding education that every child deserves. I am really looking forward to continuing to work closely with Paul and improve pupil outcomes this year."

Paul Arch said: "I have visited Paradigm's three primary schools in London and was very impressed by what I saw – so impressed that we have already adopted some of their approaches to teaching. I strongly believe that our pupils will benefit under the Trust from a consistent approach to teaching from nursery through to their ongoing education at Ipswich Academy. The Trust's key values and its approaches to delivering the curriculum are very much in line with our own and I believe their expertise will enable us to provide the best education possible for our children."

All staff currently at Piper's Vale will transfer to Paradigm Trust under TUPE legislation.

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Media enquiries

For further enquiries, please contact the Paradigm Trust media team on 020 7618 9194, or email paradigmtrust@luther.co.uk.

Notes to Editor

Paradigm Trust is a Multi Academy Trust, formed in September 2013, when the two founding schools, Old Ford Primary Academy (OFPA) and Culloden Primary Academy (CPA), converted to Academy status. In September 2014, Solebay Primary Academy (previously called CET Primary School Tower Hamlets) transferred to Paradigm Trust and Ipswich Academy (previously run by the Learning Schools Trust) in September 2015. In January 2017, Murrayfield Primary Academy became part of the Trust.