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Co-op Academy
Stoke-on-Trent

5th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with mixed emotions that I am informing you that this will be my last year as Principal of Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent. My last day as Principal will be Friday June 19th having supported the Year 11s through their GCSEs, ten years and one day since I joined the academy.

I have accepted the role of Chief Education Officer for the Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire and Wirral region for the Co-op Academies Trust. My new role will involve overseeing all six of the Co-op Academies Trust academies in this area, which includes Co-op Academy Stoke-on-Trent.

It has been a great honour and privilege to have led the transformation of this academy into one of the city's strongest schools. We have so many successes to look back on over the last ten years of my time here. We moved into the new building in 2012 and subsequently we doubled the number of students attending the academy. The academy became a nationally recognised school, winning the national Character Award in 2016 and the National Governance Award in 2019. There has been a 400% increase in the number of students who have gone onto university over the past ten years which shows the lasting impact on the community. But most importantly we have *done what matters most* and delivered a great quality of education on a daily basis, evident by historically high GCSE results.

We cannot forget some of the challenges we have faced over the years, each one making us stronger as a community. But some things will stay with you for the rest of your life. I will never forget how the community came together to support one another when we suffered the tragic and premature losses of Mr Strowger in 2014, Mrs Murray in 2018 and our Year 9 student Amaan in 2019. I am constantly amazed by the generosity of spirit that I find in this community.

The time has come to allow someone else to have the privilege of leading this amazing academy. We aim to announce my successor as quickly as possible and we will update you as soon as we can. In the meantime, once again thank you to the staff, students, my senior leadership team, governors and parent/carers for all their support over the past ten years.

Yours sincerely,

Mr N Lowry
Principal