

3rd May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Additional Senior Support for Holland Park School

Further to our letter on Friday, the Governors have been in conversation with academy trusts within the London system and with the Department for Education to find additional support for the school. This is in view of the challenges experienced in recent weeks. As we mentioned in our letter last week, we appreciate very much that so many of you have rallied round while a number of senior colleagues have been unavoidably away from the school.

From tomorrow, we will welcome a number of senior colleagues and pastoral staff to Holland Park School to support our own senior leadership team so that they have the capacity they need. One of the issues for Holland Park School that Governors have discerned is the absence of a middle leadership team which, in most schools, would provide such capacity if senior leadership was reduced. Governors are resolving this for next academic year. However, it is clearly important that the current situation is addressed swiftly.

The group we are bringing in forms a consortium of excellent leaders from across London with a vast range of experience in key areas for the school – in particular pastoral care, safeguarding, leadership and curriculum. The consortium is drawn from the following academy trusts:

- Oasis Community Learning
- The Mulberry Schools Trust
- Kensington Aldridge Academy Trust
- United Learning

Arwel Jones has had a close family bereavement and is on compassionate leave and so one of the consortium, Mr James Wilson, will cover his role as acting headteacher until Mr Jones returns.

Students and staff will be briefed and introduced to them tomorrow and on Thursday.

Such a response from colleagues is a visible example of how multi-academy trusts within the London school system are able, and committed, to support each other when there are challenges. School leaders from within the heads' community of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea have been very supportive too and the Governors thank them for stepping forward to join our focus on support for Holland Park School so that students receive the very best education and care, especially as students in exam years approach their GCSEs and A levels.

Thank you again for your support.

Yours faithfully,

Board of Governors
Holland Park School