

15th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we start a new academic year at Townley Grammar, it seems timely to provide all parents/carers with an update about The Odyssey Trust for Education. With events last week this message has been delayed.

The support for King Henry School by Leigh Academies Trust (LAT) is now underway to drive standards and ensure the best education for its students. LAT is one of the largest and most successful multi-academy trusts and includes 31 academies in Kent, Medway, Bexley and Greenwich, allowing King Henry School to be part of a large educational network. We are working alongside LAT to ensure this support is impactful and effective.

Just as we look to the future of King Henry, we are looking to the future of Odyssey Trust for Education, which was formed in 2018 by Townley's previous headteacher, Mr Desmond Deehan, who then served as Executive Headteacher and CEO for the academy trust. Mr Deehan is moving on and I am now able to share with you the announcement provided by him for staff at the start of term.

“After 12 years as Headteacher of Townley Grammar School and CEO/Executive Headteacher of the Odyssey Trust for Education I have made the decision that it is time for me to move on. I have put on hold plans for the next stage in my life and career and it is always hard to leave something you love behind but the next journey does not belong to me and I must begin my new adventure.

It has been an immense privilege to lead both Townley and Odyssey and I have valued the kindness and support of colleagues and the community. I wish you every success and happiness for the future.”

“If you are brave enough to say goodbye, life will reward with a new hello”. Paul Coelho.”

The Board of Trustees has appointed me as Interim Senior Executive Leader, alongside my role as Headteacher of Townley Grammar School. I will continue to serve our school community with commitment, passion and optimism ensuring that your children have access to the best educational experience during their time at Townley.

I will work with trustees to ensure our students' best interests are at the heart of all decision making as we consider our options for the future. Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Nevita Pandya

Headteacher