

Tuesday 27 June 2017

Dear parents/carers,

I write to inform you that I am stepping down as Principal of Compass School Southwark at the end of this academic year. This has been such a difficult decision to make, but I am confident that it is the right time to hand over the reins to somebody new.

When I joined Compass School Southwark as Principal in January 2014, I could not have imagined the community that we now have. I fondly remember the first day of school when 38 students came through the gate of the school for the first time, and I am so proud to see those students now as they prepare for their GCSEs next summer.

My ambition as Principal has been to ensure that Compass School Southwark became a successful and sustainable school that would be here for decades into the future. Gaining a GOOD judgement from Ofsted for the staff, students and parent community has been the proudest moment of my career. The next phase of the school's journey belongs to somebody new, who will bring new opportunities and ideas to the school, and build on the successes we have had so far.

I know that I am leaving the school in very safe hands. The Governing Body of the school will continue to provide the excellent strong governance that has seen the school go from strength to strength over the past few years, the Senior Leadership Team is remaining the same and will continue to deliver on our promises to you as a community, and I could not have wished for a more brilliant and committed staff team to work with and support your children. Compass School Southwark will also be strengthening its partnership with the City of London Academy over the next few years – a partnership that I welcome – with the aim of joining the City of London family of schools in time.

I want to thank all of you for your kind words and support over the past three and a half years, and thank you for trusting me and the school to provide the education that your child deserves. I will miss everything about our wonderful school, and will never forget the experiences I have had here.

Yours sincerely,



Lauren Thorpe
Principal

Tuesday 27 June 2017

Dear parents/carers,

On behalf of the entire Compass School Community I want to thank our Principal, Lauren Thorpe, for her hard work, commitment and dedication to the school. We wish her the very best of luck in her future career.

Plans are already in place to ensure continuity for the staff and students of the school, and the journey that the school is on. Over the past two terms, Compass School Southwark has been working in close partnership with the City of London Academy Southwark, and this will continue into next academic year. As part of this partnership, Marcus Huntley, the current Head of School at City of London Academy Southwark will be joining Compass School Southwark as Principal from 1 September 2017.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the Compass Schools Trust has written to the Chair of Trustees of the City of London Academic Trust of schools to ask permission for Compass School Southwark to join the City of London family of schools. This long term strategic decision has been taken, with the support of the outgoing Principal Lauren Thorpe, to strengthen the provision of education in Bermondsey for the community that we serve. This process will be overseen by Richard Bannister, Executive Principal, and the Governing Body of Compass School Southwark.

We are a small school with big plans for the future. We have a strong and committed teaching team, and an effective Senior Leadership Team, who will be working together with Mr Huntley to drive forward and continue to strengthen the school, building on the hard work already done.

"I am delighted to be joining Compass School as Principal and look forward to meeting and getting to know the pupils and school community over the coming weeks."

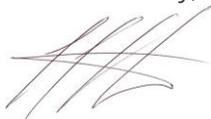
Marcus Huntley

I would also like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the staff team for the commitment to Compass and for their significant efforts in ensuring the school achieved its Ofsted rating of GOOD.

You are invited to meet the new Principal and ask any questions that you may have at a Parents' Consultation Evening on Tuesday 11th July at 5pm, and we will continue to keep you updated on progress towards joining the City of London family of schools and our partnership with the City of London Academy through our newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support of Compass School Southwark.

Yours sincerely,



Leon de Costa
Chair of Governors