

June 17th 2022



Dear Parents and carers

I am writing to you as Chairman of the Wensum Transition Board and reaching out to both introduce myself and to explain a little bit of the role I expect to be undertaking in the weeks and months to come. Already, I have been at the school gate on several mornings over the last few weeks and will continue to do so as often as I can, so please introduce yourselves as you walk past. It will be genuinely useful to chat and hear what you have to say.

I have enjoyed getting to know the school, the staff and the children a little bit over the last few weeks and as time goes by, my understanding will deepen. I am also looking forward to meeting more parents and carers, in both informal and formal ways so I can hear your thoughts and ideas, as well as feeding back to you what the Board, alongside the Senior Leadership Team, are working towards for the future improvement of Wensum. As a Transition Board, we will be working closely alongside Ms Justine Abbott, the Interim Head, and her SLT as they identify the needs of the school and, together, we will look to provide a safe and happy learning environment for all the children.

From a personal perspective, I have been in senior leadership positions in schools for 26 years with 18 of those as Headteacher. I left Headship in 2019 and now work as a School Improvement Consultant. I have worked in a wide variety of schools in this country and overseas and have always brought the best practice into the schools I have subsequently led.

I have also been a Governor in a variety of schools over the years, supporting them and their staff on their developmental journey, but equally held them to account and ensured the highest possible standards in terms of quality of education, behaviour of the children and academic rigour of the curriculum.

Although I have worked in many different parts of the country, my family home has been in Norfolk since 1979, when we moved up here. We lived near East Dereham and then my father moved into central Norwich. I have a number of brothers and sisters who live in various parts of Norfolk as well, so I can safely say we are very much involved in Norfolk life. I now live with my own family in South Walsham.

As I said at the beginning, I am here to listen, to support and to challenge, so please talk to me when you see me around school. I would like to think that I am approachable and certainly willing to give my time to you all.

With very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Carroll". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'J'.

Jonathan Carroll
Chairman, Wensum Transition Board