

25th April 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I write following Mr Jackson's announcement on Friday that he will be leaving us at the end of this academic year. In his own words: "After nearly 8 years, half spent as Principal at West Lakes Academy, I feel the time is right to move on and seek further challenges and as such I will be leaving my post at the end of August 2022. It has been a privilege to work with such a talented team of colleagues as we built an outstanding academy and an honour to serve the fantastic community of Egremont."

Before I proceed I would like to pay tribute to Mr Jackson and to the contribution he has made both to the academy and to the communities it serves. He leaves with my very best wishes and I know they are echoed by the trustees and governors.

Changes such as this are significant because of the senior nature of the role and because they happen less frequently. The Trust Board, Chair of Governors and I were informed before we broke for Easter and therefore have a robust plan in place to recruit Mr Jackson's replacement. With that in mind there will be a national recruitment campaign with the following dates:

Advert: 29th April 2022 (National advert through Hays Recruitment)

Closing date: Monday 13th June 2022

Shortlisting: Tuesday 14th June 2022

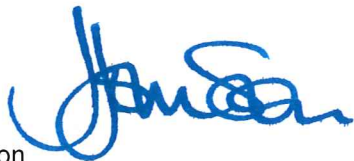
Selection process and interview: Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st June 2022

I am confident that by 21st June we will have selected the new Principal for West Lakes Academy and therefore this period of uncertainty will end. In times when there isn't much clarity for what lies ahead there is reassurance in that we have a clear plan, having planned for it! The past two years have shown this and the depths of our collective resolve to lead through the most uncertain of times.

The Trustees and Governors are also determined to ensure that we have a period of stability and I can confirm that until we have made our appointment, all academy roles, responsibilities and points of contact will remain as they are. Our focus remains on providing your children with the very best education and the very best preparation for their examinations this summer. Please be assured that we will not stop striving to expect and achieve the highest standards of personal conduct and attitude to learning.

Finally, I believe in West Lakes Academy, I believe in the power of the education it provides students and would like to thank you for all your continued support and anticipated trust and confidence as we move forward together.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Johnson
Chief Executive Officer