

29 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to let you know that with effect from September, I am stepping down from my role at St Mark's to take up a new post with responsibility for a group of schools at another multi-academy trust. However, due to the current circumstances and uncertainties regarding schools' reopening, I will be staying on as Advisory Principal on a part-time basis through the Autumn term to support the school at this challenging time.

St Mark's, I know and believe, is in a very good position to go from strength to strength, with our leaders ready to embark on the next and important chapter. Andy Yarrow, CEO of Anthem Schools Trust, and his executive leadership team are working hard to recruit my successor. Whilst this process is underway interim arrangements will be put in place and St Mark's fantastic senior leaders will continue to ensure the smooth running of the school.

St Mark's has become a significant part of my family and I will leave with a warm heart and the greatest memories. It has been my very great privilege to serve as principal since my appointment in 2013, and I have enjoyed working with the fabulous students, dedicated parents, inspirational staff and committed wider community. I feel honoured to have had the chance to touch the lives of so many children and adults - I do hope the communities have been enhanced through the service I have provided. It has been as much a pleasure to learn from all of you as it has been to serve.

At the time of writing this letter we are all working through the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. It's a time for us all to prioritise family and friends, and remember those who have lost loved ones during this international crisis. As we ensure our values of Love Hope and Trust live through of all us, please take time to look after your mental health and wellbeing. We have dedicated a page [here](#) on our website.

With Love, Hope and Trust



Lisa Peterkin
Principal

Principal Lisa Peterkin



The Diocese of
Southwark



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