ASTREA ACADEMY WOODFIELDS
Weston Road, Balby, Doncaster, DN4 8ND
01302 312140
Interim Principal: Mrs. Victoria Southall

20th November 2026

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to update you about my leadership at Woodfields. As you may be aware, I am expecting a child and begin maternity leave on Monday 23rd November, and I am very pleased to announce that Emma Hollingdrake will lead the school as Interim Head of School in my absence.

It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to lead the next stage of improvement that this academy, your child and the wider community deserve, and I very much look forward to returning from maternity leave in the near future.

Mrs. Hollingdrake will continue all our hard work and will continue with rapid improvement at the academy. She has transformed scholar experience at Woodfields and has the highest expectations of what all scholars can achieve, regardless of their starting points.

Woodfields will continue to have a relentless focus on

- raising academic outcomes, so that no child is limited in their future;
- improving attendance and behaviour, so that no time is wasted and every child can learn;
- ensuring that every teacher is an expert at teaching, so that every child can achieve top grades regardless of their starting points;
- acknowledging and rewarding the hard work of scholars, so that every child is motivated to achieve their fullest potential;
- developing a stronger community, so that scholars will become kind individuals who make positive contributions to society;
- introducing a broader careers and extra-curricular offer, so that every child has experiences beyond the classroom.

We believe in the extraordinary potential of your child and will continue to have highest expectations of your child both academically and in terms of their conduct. We believe that if your child attends school and works hard they will live a great life full of opportunity and choice.

I am hugely grateful of the support that the wider community provides to Woodfields, and I am sure that you will continue to support Mrs. Hollingdrake and this stage of improvement.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Victoria Southall
Interim Principal