

## Message from Sara Edwards, CEO

A couple of weeks ago Wimbledon began with an emotional standing ovation on Centre Court for our amazing scientists and NHS. The gratitude and pride clearly evident on the faces of the crowd. A few hours later, the tennis fans (and those of us at home) were reminded of the highs and lows of watching Andy Murray; it felt as if life really was returning to normal!



The following evening England beat Germany in a football match, which didn't feel normal, and by the time you read this, we will have survived the emotional rollercoaster of some British sporting wins and losses, and, moved on...

As we come to the end of yet another remarkable year, the emotions mentioned above have certainly been felt throughout the last twelve months. And we now all hope we can move on, not only to new classes, new roles, new opportunities but also a new normal.

Before we move on, I would like to show to all at Acorn my gratitude and pride in you. Unfortunately, I can't emulate Centre Court with a standing ovation, my thank you however, is heartfelt and my pride immense. Thank you for all that you have done this year for the children, young people, families and communities in Acorn. Your resilience, dedication, care and support are truly appreciated.

Goodbye and good luck to all the staff who are leaving us, we wish you every happiness and success in the future.

I hope you all manage to relax over the summer. I know the business staff will enjoy a quieter office or campus, some secondary staff will be working during results week and the summer school fortnight, so whatever you are doing, I hope you stay safe and have a lovely time.

Take care

Sara



**Acorn**  
Education Trust

- Active & Visible Leadership
- Care, Support & Challenge
- Opportunities For All
- Respect, Recognition & Resilience
- Needs Of All Are Paramount

Kingdown School  
Woodcock Road  
Warminster BA12 9DR

Tel: 01985 224264



@acornedtrust

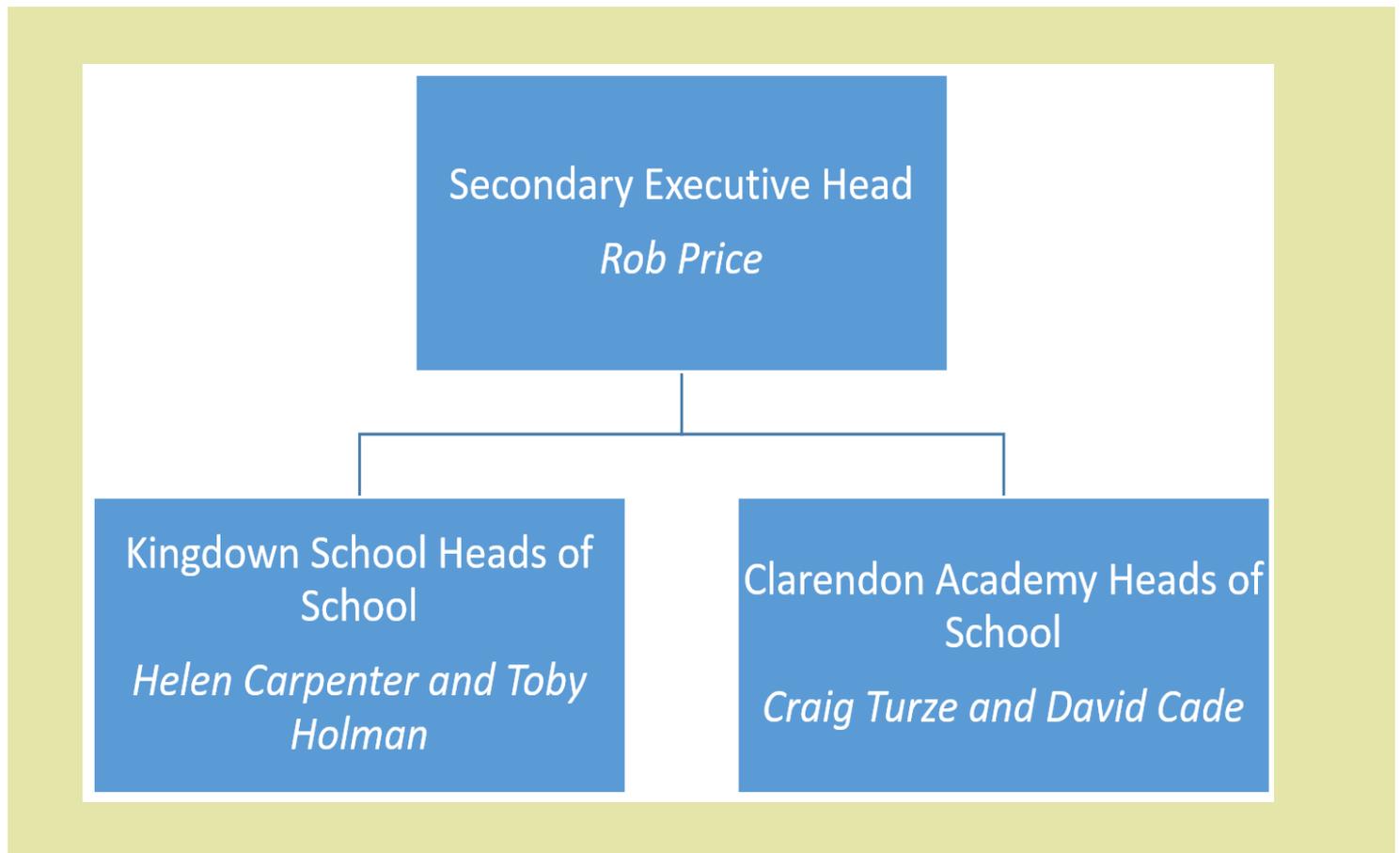
## Secondary School Structure

We are incredibly fortunate to have hugely talented staff working across Acorn Education Trust, sharing their expertise and knowledge. Having worked within the Trust for many years, I have personally experienced and been a part of the teams working within our secondary schools, who work tirelessly to support students.

As of Term 6 this year, a new structure has been put in place for the Secondary Schools within Acorn to help to help support our staff and students, ensuring they both are well looked after and achieve excellence.

### The New Secondary Structure

Heads of School have been appointed to help lead both Kingdown School and Clarendon Academy



I will act as Executive Headteacher at both schools and support the Heads of School in their roles. While I am now responsible for the standards in both schools and will answer to the Acorn Trust, the DFE and Ofsted on all things from safeguarding to progress and outcomes, I am still the named Headteacher at Clarendon and am personally accountable for all that happens there.

As Executive Headteacher I will be based at both schools, spending roughly half my time at each, to support the Heads of School in their respective roles. The Heads of School and I will work together as a team of five leaders to align a lot of areas and grow together. We have very exciting developments in the pipeline in areas such as: teacher development in terms of quality first teaching, literacy provisions, curriculum development and many more.

This is a really exciting time for both Kingdown School and Clarendon Academy, allowing the schools and staff to work far more closely than we ever have done before.

Rob Price

Executive Headteacher

## Swindon & Wiltshire Teaching School Hub



**Swindon & Wiltshire Teaching School Hub**

Part of United Learning

Acorn Education Trust is delighted to be a Lead Delivery Partner for the Swindon & Wiltshire Teaching School Hub.

Earlier this year, the Department of Education (DfE) announced 87 new teaching School Hubs across the country, with the goal of providing every school in England with access to a local centre of excellence for training. Swindon & Wiltshire Teaching School Hub is committed to providing high quality training and development to all teachers and leaders at any stage of their career and has built a network of partners to deliver training and support across the region.

Acorn Education Trust will be delivering the Early Career Framework (ECF) training to West Wiltshire secondary schools, and additionally will be involved with the delivery of National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) and other Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes.

We look forward to working collaboratively with Swindon & Wiltshire Teaching School Hub and the other hub partners to help ensure that the best training and development opportunities are available to teachers and leaders.

## New Kingdown Website



Kingdown School has now moved over to the new Acorn Education Trust website platform, Cleverbox; the school worked closely with Cleverbox, who host the site, to ensure the design highlights all of the wonderful work happening across the school community. This is reflective of Kingdown School's aim to equip all students with the knowledge, skills and personal characteristics to succeed through the development of their self-confidence and self-belief, by providing an aspiration to 'be the best you can be'.

The new site features a new, easy to use navigation menu and a mobile friendly design. The content across the site has been reviewed and updated to ensure it's all current and relevant, helping to certify

that the new website will be a central location for school news, updates and information.

A massive congratulations to the Kingdown School team for their incredible work on the new website.

## Estates

The Estates team are going to be working hard over the summer on a variety of projects across the Trust, including:

- Clarendon Academy: two Science laboratories and one toilet block being refurbished, a new wireless fire alarm system and LED lighting being installed across the school and a new roof on the art block
- Kingdown School: refurbishment of one of the Science laboratories and decoration of three classrooms
- Avenue Primary School and Children's Centre: commencing the building work for the school's new Recourse Base
- Dilton Marsh Church of England Primary School: building a new classroom and the refurbishment of the front reception and offices
- Great Wishford Church of England Primary School: new windows being installed and repointing of the older part of the school
- New Close Primary School: painting the Key Stage 2 corridor and improvements being made to the front car park
- St John's Church of England Primary School: painting the school hall
- Heytesbury Church of England Primary School and Wansdyke School: new security fencing installed

We look forward to seeing the finished projects at the start of the next term.

## Staff Leavers

This summer we're saying a thank you and goodbye to a number of Acorn Education Trust staff. All of the staff mentioned below have made an incredible contribution to their schools and have made a huge difference to so many pupils' lives.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all staff who are leaving the Acorn family, they will be greatly missed and wish them every future happiness and health.



### **Simon Harrison – Kingdown School**

Simon joined Kingdown School in 2009 as member of the Geography department and has been part of the hugely successful team that has inspired countless students to pursue Geography beyond school. His love of the great outdoors has meant he's been on countless fieldtrips and expeditions and delivered Forest School curriculum. Simon and his family are locating to the South Coast to live by the sea (every Geographer's dream). We wish them all the very best of luck for the future and we thank you Simon for all you have done for the students at Kingdown.



### **Liz Keenan – Kingdown School**

Liz is a specialist teacher and assessor for dyslexia and has brought such breadth of knowledge and valued expertise to the Trust since joining in 1994. Primarily based at Kingdown School; teaching students who were experiencing difficulties with literacy. This included when the school was a centre for SpLD. Liz also worked across the Trust as a specialist advisor within both of our secondary schools, ensuring all entitled students have the access arrangements they need to succeed in their examinations. Additionally, she visited many of our primary schools undertaking diagnostic assessment for individuals which has supported the understanding of children's needs. We will miss Liz greatly both for her wealth of experience and for her kind, supportive manner and quick sense of humour. Thank you Liz for making such a difference to the lives of so many.



### **Lynne Holdsworth – The Avenue Primary School and Children's Centre**

Since joining The Avenue Primary School and Children's Centre in 1994, Lynne has worked as a Teaching Assistant across the mainstream and resource base parts of the school. She has helped countless children learn and grow over the past 27 years and we wish her the best of luck in her retirement and thank her for her hard work and dedication.



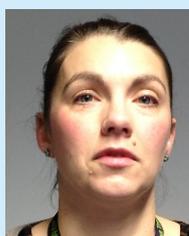
### **Samantha Feast – Heytesbury Hedgehogs**

Samantha has been a valued member of the Heytesbury Hedgehogs and wider Acorn team for over 25 years. She has been a part of the development process and the learning for so many children over the years demonstrating incredible commitment and enthusiasm. She will be dearly missed by the team who wish her all the best of luck.



### **Jean Smith – Clarendon Academy**

Jean Smith has played such a big part at Clarendon for over 30 years. During this time she has supported countless families and students. She has improved the life chances for a number of our students with her relentless optimism and by going the extra mile. Jean will be sorely missed and we would like to wish her a long and happy retirement.



### **Kate Dummett - Rowde Church of England Primary School**

Kate arrived at Rowde 20 years ago as a newly-qualified teacher, and leaves with just as much enthusiasm and love for the children as she had then. Kate is going to take her talents to Holbrook School in Trowbridge where she will no doubt have everyone Harry Potter-obsessed before long. She leaves with our thanks and love for all she has done over two decades. Good luck Kate!





**Andy Dyson - Rowde Church of England Primary School**

Andy leaves after an immense 15 years, having been through all of Rowde's highs and lows. There can be very few young people in Rowde and the surrounding area who haven't enjoyed a year or two in Andy's class. Andy is moving on to a Year 5 role at Woodborough, and we wish him luck and love in this new challenge.



**Graham Sutheran** also leaves us this year after more than 40 years at Kingdown. Graham retired as a teacher 11 years ago but joined the business staff providing great support to the pastoral team. We wish him a very happy retirement but hope he will continue to stay in touch

**Acorn Education Trust**

Harrison Wall Primary PE Specialist 1 year

**Clarendon Academy**

Chloe Corrie Head of Chemistry 2 years  
 Jodie Jarman Science Technician 8 years  
 Kev Keely Teacher of Science 3 years  
 Mel Bale Data Manager 1 year  
 Paige McDougall Teacher of Art 1 year

**Kingdown School**

Alistair Wallace Science Teacher 1 year  
 Billy Wilkins-Pratt Science Teacher 1 year  
 Cerys Giffard Teaching Assistant 3 years  
 Ellie Allman Teaching Assistant 4 years  
 Graham Sutheran Pastoral Data Manager 10 years  
 Heather Pottow MFL Teacher 6 years  
 Jess Holmes Teaching Assistant 1 year  
 Katy Strange English Teacher 6 years  
 Maria Przymuszala School Cleaner 11 years  
 Nik Kilminster Performing Arts Teacher 1 year  
 Poppy Beattie Teaching Assistant 2 years  
 Sam Thomas Geography Teacher 1 year

**Rowde Church of England School**

Rachel Clements MDSA 3 years  
 Sarah McCann Teacher 7 years

**St John's CofE Primary School**

Alice Fitzsimmons Teacher 2.5 years

**The Avenue Primary School and Children's Centre**

Amy Hartfield TA 3 months  
 Daisy Hale Teacher 3 years  
 Ehlana Godfrey Cleaning 1 year  
 Helene Stevens Catering Assistant 7 months  
 Jenna Burton TA 6 weeks  
 Louise Lee Catering Assistant 7 months  
 Nicola Craddock TA 10 years

**Wansdyke School**

Jennifer Gumm TA (Complex Needs Resource Base)/ MDSA 1 year

**West Ashton CofE Primary School**

Alice Bristowe Teacher 13 years  
 Christine Fox Teacher 1 year

