

Office of the Vice-Chancellor

**David Nightingale**  
Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor

T: +44 (0)1227 823350  
F: +44 (0)1227 824026  
E: D.R.Nightingale@kent.ac.uk  
www.kent.ac.uk

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## To all the parents/carers of Brompton Academy

Dear Parents / Carers

### University of Kent Academies Trust (UKAT)

Some time ago the Governing Body of Chatham Grammar School for Girls (CGSG) approached the University of Kent to join the Brompton Trust, and work in partnership alongside our highly successful and oversubscribed academy.

Last year the parents/carers of CGSG and BA, together with various stakeholders, were consulted about the proposal. Following the positive outcome from the consultation, and after various legal processes and further discussions with the Department for Education, the Education Funding Agency and the Regional Schools Commissioner, CGSG will formally join the Trust on or shortly after the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017. The Trust name will be changed from Brompton Trust to the University of Kent Academies Trust (UKAT). Governance of CGSG will move to the University of Kent Academies Trust Board. UKAT, with two schools, Brompton Academy and CGSG, is now deemed a multi academy trust.

As part of the new way forward UKAT will be establishing a new sixth form provision to be called 'the University of Kent Academies Trust Sixth form'. This will encompass the existing Franklin Sixth form at Brompton, as well as the sixth form at CGSG. Students from both schools within the Trust will benefit from enhanced sixth form provision, wider curriculum opportunities, shared facilities and bespoke support and mentoring from graduate and postgraduate students.

The new Trust has been active in beginning to put in place a new strategic leadership team that will operate across the two UKAT academies to raise standards and improve the quality of teaching, thereby ensuring both academies move from their current good Ofsted ratings to outstanding.

### Executive Team appointments

The assessments and interviews for selection to the first of the new posts in the UKAT leadership structure have now been completed.

The posts advertised and appointed were

- an operational Principal for Brompton Academy as the current Principal, Judy Rider, takes up the Executive Principal position working across both academies.

- an operational Principal for CGSG (which was advertised nationally in the Times Educational Supplement).
- two further Principals who will lead and work within the UKAT central team (working across the two academies and possibly more as we grow). One will be responsible for Academy Improvement and Quality Assurance, the other will be responsible for Teaching and Learning including CPD, and oversight of the new University of Kent teacher training programmes.

Interviews for these posts took place last week. The interview panel comprised:

- David Nightingale, Chair of the Trustees, Member and Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, the University of Kent.
- Jen Wyatt, Trustee, Member and Head of the Partnership Office at the University of Kent.
- Nigel Ingram, Trustee and Chair of Staffing and Finance.
- Val McGregor, External Consultant.
- Michelle Clark, HR Consultant University of Kent.

I am pleased to be able to inform you that, following two and a half days of rigorous assessments to test out the candidate's abilities, skills, knowledge and experience across a range of activities, and against the Principal person specification, the following appointments have been duly made.

Jennie Best	Principal – UKAT Head of Teaching and Learning
Jen Robertson	Principal – Brompton Academy
Philip Storey	Principal – UKAT Head of Academy Improvement
Wendy Walters	Principal – Chatham Grammar School for Girls

All of these post holders will report directly to the Executive Principal, Judy Rider, and to the UKAT Board. As you can see all of these post holders are already members of the strategic leadership team here at Brompton Academy.

I would like to extend my thanks to the staff and students from both academies who participated in the assessment process.

Our external consultant (who is part of the Department for Education Regional Schools Commissioner Education Adviser team) made clear to the interview panel that all the successful candidates were exceptional, and that we were extremely fortunate to have such high calibre individuals driving forward on our new forward vision to secure outstanding outcomes for students in a positive and supportive ethos for all.

These roles will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.

Yours sincerely

David Nightingale  
Chair of UKAT  
Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Kent.