**Welcome from the Chair of the Interim Executive Board**

Dear School Leader,

Thank you for your interest in the headteacher post at our school. I hope you will find the information in this pack and on the school website helpful in your consideration of whether to apply. If you believe you meet our person specification and the requirements detailed in the job description, and are excited by the opportunities and challenges the post offers, then **please do submit an application.** You are very welcome to arrange an informal visit to the school, and the contact details and time slots to enable you to make an appointment for this are in the published advertisement.

As will no doubt be evident to you from the information contained in the “school context” sheet in the pack, the school has gone through a challenging period, something indicated also by there being an IEB, rather than governing board in place. The IEB is clear that the school is now on a much surer footing, a view we are pleased to be able to say is fully supported by both the Local Authority and the Diocese, with whom we have worked in close partnership since August 2016. The school has also benefited enormously from the support of the Three Saints Trust and their teaching school alliance and maths hub, support that will continue through to the end of the 2017-18 school year at least, especially via our executive headteacher and interim headteacher. Please note that the interim headteacher has confirmed with the IEB her return to her substantive headteacher post within the Trust for September 2018, and will therefore be leaving Spinney Avenue this summer. This advertised post is therefore for a substantive headteacher for Spinney Avenue.

The IEB has committed to securing the school’s transition in to a Church of England multi academy trust, and in this we have the support of the Diocese, something understood by our staff and parent community, and by the Regional Schools Commissioner. Although timescales for this are yet to be confirmed, and no formal process begun, the shared expectation is that the conversion process will commence later this year, although it may be it will not be concluded until towards the end of the autumn term 2018, or the spring term 2019. You will no doubt be aware it will be for the headteacher board and the RSC to make final decisions on this in due course.

I hope this letter and the additional information we have provided is helpful to you in deciding if becoming headteacher at Spinney Avenue is the right move personally and professionally for you. I can assure you of our commitment to offering the successful candidate not only a warm welcome from our staff, parents and carers and pupils, but also continuing professional support, opportunity and development from the governors and connectivity with the Local Authority, Diocese and wider school led system.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Kent (IEB Chair)