



11th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I promised in my letter in June, I am writing to update you on the progress made in our next steps in the Royston Schools Academy Trust's journey to become Outstanding. The Trustees, headteachers and myself have been working with leading educationalists nationally, and the Regional Commissioner over recent months. The aim has been to further develop the work already started by our very committed teachers and support staff. When meeting with representatives of the parents/carers in Royston, areas were identified as priorities for the success of your children. We have focused on two areas: ensuring all pupils are happy and confident learners and that they achieve outstanding outcomes.

The way we currently provide education locally in Royston needs future proofing, the landscape has changed and the need to maximise finite resources has become ever more of a challenge. I outlined in my last letter our intention to ensure all three schools work more closely together to benefit from the wealth of experience available. As part of this work, it became clear that the natural development of this is to create an all through school beginning in Year 5 (proposed for September 2018). This will be under one leader to ensure even greater continuity of learning and success for pupils, year on year.

I am sure many of you will have read the numerous articles from the wider education community with regard to the significant benefits this achieves in accelerating student success. In light of Hertfordshire County Council's request for the schools to expand in the near future, the trustees are exploring how the monies made available for this expansion can be utilised to enhance the buildings and resources for all students.

As well as utilising the extensive expertise we currently have in the schools, we will be working closely with other educational establishments to develop an outstanding provision here in Royston. We will be having discussions with The Knights Templar School to look at the possibility of developing our sixth form provision and build on this year's excellent A level results. Also, developing links with other Hertfordshire schools such as Hitchin Girls' Teaching School Alliance, Dame Alice Owen's and Watford Boys' School. We see this as a collaborative process which will benefit all schools as we share our expertise and best practice with access to wider thinking.

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Laura Rawlings, current headteacher of Greneway and Roysia Schools, will lead this transformation. This is the creation of a new school that offers the best of all our existing schools. We will hold a meeting later this month to seek your views both on these proposals and the next steps in our work. We are very excited about this project and are certain you will recognise the positive impact this will have on your children.

Your sincerely,

Carol Boston  
Chair of RSAT