

February 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some information and to update you on the position at Hanson since I last wrote in December 2016 to tell you that the Wakefield City Academy Trust (WCAT) was withdrawing as our proposed sponsor. We were disappointed with the news that WCAT were no longer going to be involved but wanted to take time to identify the best way forward.

The Interim Executive Board (IEB) has been working closely with the Department for Education and the Local Authority to find a suitable partner to work with us, and one with a strong track record of school improvement.

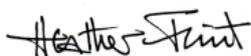
We are pleased that Sir John Townsley, Executive Principal at The Gorse Academies Trust (www.tgat.org.uk) and his staff will be working with the students and staff at Hanson from 1st March 2017 as part of their Teaching School Alliance. We are confident that Hanson can benefit from the support and additional resources that his team will bring and build on the work already undertaken by WCAT and the staff in school to make Hanson an outstanding place to work and learn.

This arrangement will be part of an 18 month Service Level Agreement. The focus of the partnership will be on improving the outcomes for students and not, at this stage, on becoming an academy. Hanson will remain, for the immediate future, a Foundation School and part of Bradford District.

Meanwhile, we are conscious that since the Interim Executive Board has been in place staff and parents have not had the opportunity to be involved directly in the leadership and governance of the school. We are therefore moving from the IEB to a Governing Body with elected staff and parent governors with effect from 1st April 2017. Mr Woods will be writing formally inviting nominations for parent and staff governors after half term. If you would like more information about what being a governor involves, there is a range of information on the National Governors Association website at <http://www.nga.org.uk/Be-a-Governor.aspx>

Our thanks go to Richard Woods, the Deputy Principals and all staff for their hard work, and to the parents and students at Hanson for supporting the school over the last 18 months.

Yours faithfully



Heather Flint

On behalf of the Interim Executive Board