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APPOINTMENT OF NEW PRINCIPAL AT LEEDS EAST ACADEMY

Ambitious leader with a passion for learning to steer school to world class status.

The White Rose Academies Trust is delighted to announce that **Mrs Sarah Carrie** has been appointed as **Principal of Leeds East Academy**. Following a **national advertising campaign** and a **rigorous two-day interview process**, Mrs Carrie demonstrated a commitment to school and a phenomenal understanding of the staff and students' outstanding capabilities.

Mrs Carrie's journey began at **Seacroft school** over **18 years ago**, beginning her career in 2000 when it was Parklands Girls High School as an unqualified **Teacher of Dance**.

Three years later Sarah gave birth to her son Oscar (now 14 years old). When Oscar was three years old, Sarah made the decision that she wanted to be successful so that she could give Oscar the best life possible. After enrolling at a Saturday school, Sarah achieved her **GCSE maths** which meant she could then enrol for a **teaching qualification**.

She trained at the highly acclaimed **Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Leeds**, graduating with a Bachelor of Performing Arts Degree in Dance. During her career as a dancer she was fortunate enough to work with **Sharon Watson**, the current inspirational leader of Phoenix Dance Theatre. As a pioneering woman herself, Sarah says she owes her to success to Sharon, who has motivated her to progress in leadership and enriching the lives of others.

Through her hard work, determination and passion for Education, Sarah has enjoyed a stellar career at the Academy/wider Trust as an **outstanding teacher, excellent middle leader, exceptional senior leader** and more recently **Acting Principal**.

Since joining the **Senior Leadership Team in September 2016**, Mrs Carrie has played an influential role in the rapid improvements which have taken place at the school over the last 18 months and will now continue that journey, with her outstanding team of staff and students alongside her, to transform Leeds East Academy in to a **world class school**.

Prof Darren Shickle, Director/Chair of the Local Accountability Board, said: "Sarah has been fully committed to providing the highest quality of education for the students of Leeds East Academy and before that at Parklands Girls High School. As such she was a key person in helping to accomplish the **fantastic GCSE results** that our students achieved last year. Her abilities have been recognised by her promotions over the years culminating in her new appointment as **Principal**."

“On behalf of the School Governors and Local Accountability Board, we look forward to working with Sarah and of course the rest of the staff at the Academy, students and parents in helping students achieve their potential both in terms of their examinations and growth as fully-rounded individuals.”

Andrew Whitaker, Executive Principal of the **White Rose Academies Trust**, added: “On behalf of the White Rose Academies Trust Board and Executive team I would like to express our delight at the appointment of Sarah Carrie as the Principal of Leeds East Academy.

Having worked with Sarah over the last two years, I know of the excellent professionalism, relentless drive and the passion that she has for Leeds East Academy and the amazing community that it serves. I am very much looking forward to working with Sarah to continue the transformation of the academy in to a truly **world class school.**”

ENDS



NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Leeds East Academy is the **most improved school in Yorkshire** and the **4th most improved school in the country**, celebrating remarkable GCSE results with an outstanding **Progress 8 improvement of +1.09**.

Housed within a **state-of-the-art new school building**, Leeds East Academy is now the premier choice of school for families in the local area.

Leeds East Academy is also a highly desirable and dynamic world-class establishment for **ambitious education professionals**, who will be joining one of **the most productive, supportive and talented leadership teams in the country**.

Following a rapid improvement programme across **Leeds East Academy, Leeds City Academy and Leeds West Academy**, the young people within **The White Rose Academies Trust** are now benefiting from a **greatly enhanced education**.

New leadership, exceptional teaching and cutting-edge facilities equip students with the unique skills and personal confidence to fully meet their aspirations and potential

The White Rose Academies Trust is a local trust dedicated to raising the ambitions and aspirations of young people. It is currently comprised of three academies which occupy sites in the centre, east and west of the city.

The Trust is sponsored by **Leeds City College**, one of the largest further education providers in the country which encompasses **Leeds College of Music** within its organisation. Through the College's expertise and national and international networks, our Academies now offer highly desirable employability prospects within education and beyond.

The White Rose Academies Trust is the only truly local Leeds partnership of schools that share the same ethos and that have pathways into Further Education through a special relationship with Leeds City College. The Trust shares a mission with the college to ensure that all students attending the academies have very well-developed employability skills. All WRAT Academies also work in conjunction with local businesses in formal relationships which commit employers to supporting young people to understand and prepare for the demands of the world of work.

The Executive Principal of White Rose Academies Trust is Andrew Whitaker. Andrew joined The White Rose Academies Trust as Executive Principal on 1st September 2016, with a personal determination that all White Rose Academies will become outstanding providers of education to the communities that they serve.

In 2018, Andrew, was awarded a prestigious **Churchill Fellowship**. Andrew's previous work includes leading the transformation of **Todmorden High School**. For more details visit:

<https://www.theparliamentaryreview.co.uk/editions/pdfs/TPR2016-EducationSecondary-North.pdf>

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