



Monday 9th July 2018

**A joint message from: Susan Douglas, CEO, Eden Academy Trust
Kris Williams, Headteacher, James Rennie School
Michael Thompson, Headteacher, Hexham Priory School.**

Dear staff and parents

We are pleased to announce that after positive votes from the Governing Bodies of Hexham Priory School in Northumberland and James Rennie School in Cumbria, and the Trustees of the Eden Academy Trust, it is the intention that both schools will become part of the Trust's family of special schools from 1st September 2018.

This is excellent news, and we would like to thank everyone for the hard work and consideration that has been put into making these decisions. Working as a group of 7 schools, we believe there is huge potential for sharing knowledge, experience and expertise which will enable all of the institutions to progress, develop and continue to improve for the benefit of both current and future pupils and their families.

We passionately believe that through sharing skills and best practice across our family of schools and central services, together we can create centres of educational excellence where all our young people achieve exceptional outcomes.

We hope these two schools will be the start of a regional family of schools in northern England.

Best wishes

Susan, Kris and Michael

Susan Douglas, CEO, Eden Academy Trust
Kris Williams, Headteacher, James Rennie School
Michael Thompson, Headteacher, Hexham Priory School.