



**Helenswood  
Academy**



**ARK William Parker  
Academy**

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Further to my recent letter, I wanted to remind you about the meetings we will be holding for all parents about our new structure.

You are welcome to attend whichever is convenient for you:

- Monday 2 March 2015, Helenswood Upper School Hall, 7pm
- Tuesday 3 March 2015, Ark William Parker Main School Hall, 7pm

Ahead of the meeting, I also wanted to share some important changes to our school leadership which we believe will help secure our long-term future and drive to continue to raise standards.

Firstly, our Associate Principal, Daniel Hatley, has been appointed Acting Principal of Ark William Parker. Many of you will know Mr Hatley, who joined us in 2013 as Interim Headteacher. Originally an English teacher, he was previously Deputy Head at the Beacon School in Surrey where results rose sharply. He was also Deputy Head of School at Glyn School in Epsom, an all-boys academy graded as outstanding by Ofsted, with a mixed sixth form. In 2012, Glyn was rated as the fourth best non-selective boys' school in the whole country for GCSE results.

Secondly, while protecting our status as separate, single-sex schools, Ark William Parker and Helenswood academies will be working closely together to share best practice and improve educational outcomes for our students.

To that end, I will be acting as Regional Director with responsibility for implementing the new structure and leading collaboration across both schools. In addition, we will have a joint governing body which will be chaired by Becky Curtis, Director of Education Support at Ark. Becky was a school leader in London for 12 years before joining Ark five years ago. Sarah Driver will be acting as the William Parker Vice Chair.

**PRINCIPAL: Lucy Monk**

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**ACTING PRINCIPAL: Daniel Hatley**

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We believe these changes will provide strong oversight and support for both schools, building on the success of our joint sixth form and joint extra-curricular activities. By ensuring effective collaboration and joint working between both schools, our aim, as ever is to provide the best possible education for all our students.

I do hope you will be able to join us next week.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

**Mark Phillips**  
**Acting Regional Director**  
**Ark Secondary Schools Hastings**