



12.07.19

Dear Parent / Carer,

## **Update regarding the Principal**

As you know, Paul Collins, the Principal of South Dartmoor Community College (SDCC), has been away from the College in recent weeks for health reasons.

Sadly, Paul has decided that he will not be able to return and so has stepped down. We would like to put on record our sincere thanks to Paul for his work leading the school and his dedication to the College over many years. We wish him a speedy recovery and the very best for the future. Mr Collins has asked that the following message be shared with the parents and students:

*"The past 8 years at SDCC have been some of the most rewarding of my career and it has been both an honour and privilege to work alongside so many dedicated, hard working and talented teachers.*

*I have taken a great deal of time reflecting on what is best and right for myself and family and have come to the conclusion that it is time for me to leave SDCC. Although this is the most difficult decision I have ever made in my career, I know it is the right one.*

*As I depart I want to make one request and that is that during the challenging and exciting times ahead that our entire community continues to come together as one collective to help, support and constructively challenge each other and remain true to our values of ensuring the best possible education for every student.*

*I want to thank staff, parents and governors for everything they have done, but most importantly, I wish every past, present and future student every success and to never forget what an amazing school they have been a part of."*

Parents will be thrilled to know that through the Ivybridge Teaching School's application to the DFE for a school improvement grant, we will be welcoming Mr Kevin Dyke to South Dartmoor Community College from September 1<sup>st</sup> as the interim principal. A team from the Ivybridge Teaching School, including Mr Dyke, visited the school today and met with myself and Angela Barry. Mr Dyke will be undertaking several visits over the next two weeks in readiness for taking up his new position.

Yours sincerely,

**Rachel Shaw**  
Chief Executive Officer  
South Dartmoor Academy