



14th July 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you at the end of a very busy summer term, and the sun is shining!

We are extremely proud of all of our academies and their pupils who have worked hard and been assessed in new ways, against the government's new and more challenging targets. The Secretary of State has been clear that we should not try to compare the results this year with previous years but that we should see them as the beginning of a new journey to demonstrate excellence in a new and more challenging curriculum.

This year, our consultants have again worked closely with academy staff to support each school's respective priority areas of improvement. Staff and students from University departments have also visited schools to enrich the curriculum with science, art, Forest School and other areas of specialist activity. We have also been delighted to welcome several groups of our pupils to the University campus for careers days, art tours, climbing wall sessions, orienteering and other adventures.

You may know that the Government recently announced its intention that all state schools in England will become academies. Not surprisingly, there has been a significant interest in joining the Trust from schools across the region. Our planned growth strategy is clear and is based on recruiting schools in the University's partnership area, near to our existing academies, to enable us develop geographical groups of academies that can work effectively together.

In the next school year three more Portsmouth schools join the Trust and we very much look forward to welcoming the children and staff of Court Lane Infant School and Court Lane Junior School in September, and then Arundel Court Primary School later in the year. We will then be a family of nine academies who will be able to work together and support each other as well as working with the University.

Finally I would like to wish all our Year 6 pupils an exciting new adventure at their new schools.

With best wishes to you all for a very happy summer,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sue Samson'.

Sue Samson
Chief Executive Officer
University of Chichester Academy Trust