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Dear parents, carers and young people

I am writing to you on behalf of the Trustees of BEST to share the news that after just over ten years of leading our community of academies our CEO Dr Alan Lee will be retiring at Easter.

Alan was appointed to set up and lead BEST in delivering excellent educational opportunities for all our young people. Through Alan's leadership we have grown as a Trust and are living out the mission to 'To grow the BEST in everyone.' It is a testament to his leadership that we have in place a strong group of Principals and a Central Team who absolutely uphold the ethos of our Trust.

Alan has not only spent the last ten years building up our Trust to what it is today, he has also served the education communities in Liverpool and Bedford Borough for many years prior to becoming CEO at Best as well as mentoring many school leaders and others.

Whilst I know this news will be a surprise to many of you, I am sure you will all agree that he deserves to enjoy the next phase of his life doing other things.

We want to assure you that we will be seeking to appoint a new CEO who will build on the excellent legacy that Alan will leave. We also want to ensure that we appoint someone who will live out the ethos and values that are BEST and are what make us distinctive as a Trust.

Alan's leadership style has been to foster an ethos of collaborative endeavour across our academies and nurseries with the sole aim of improving the education development of every young person in our community and we want this to continue under a new CEO.

Alan will continue in his role while we recruit his successor as we still have two busy terms before he leaves us and there will be a handover period to ensure that there is a smooth transition to the new CEO.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Alan for his exceptional service, hard work, dedication and care for all the young people in our academies over the past ten years and wish him every happiness in his retirement.

Yours faithfully

Ilona Bond

Chair of Trustees

Dr Alan Lee
CEO & National Leader of Education



Campton Academy, Castle Newnham, Etonbury Academy, Gothic Mede Academy, Gravenhurst Academy, Langford Village Academy, Lawnside Academy, Pix Brook Academy, Robert Bloomfield Academy, Samuel Whitbread Academy, St Christophers Academy, BEST Nurseries

Company Registration Number: 07546141, VAT Registration Number 120 7845 28, BEST has exempt charitable status by virtue of being an academy trust