

5th November 2021

Dear Parent,

Head of Wetherby Preparatory School from September 2022

Following a thorough recruitment process, I am delighted to announce that Mark White will be the next Head of Wetherby Preparatory School. He will be taking up this appointment from September 2022.

Mark was educated at Eton College and at the University of Edinburgh where he read History and Politics. He completed a Post Graduate Certificate of Education at the University of Bristol.

Mark is currently the Head of Hazlegrove Preparatory School in Somerset. Hazlegrove is a school of 370 pupils, boarding and day, which sends children to, amongst twenty different schools each year, Marlborough, Eton, Winchester, Radley, and Millfield. The School has high academic standards and provides significant all-round opportunities for children, as evidenced by the fact that the pupils have won, on average, over 30 scholarships and exhibitions per annum over recent years.

Prior to taking up the Headship of Hazelgrove Prep in 2017, Mark was the Deputy Head (Academic) at the Dragon School, Oxford. The Dragon is a large prep school of over 820 children which regularly sends pupils to, amongst thirty different schools each year, Harrow, Eton, Winchester, Radley, Marlborough, Magdalen College School, Abingdon, Wellington, Oundle, St. Edward's and Rugby and the pupils win a large number of scholarships each year.

It has been helpful to Mark's career that he started teaching at secondary school level, and so he has been able to see the progression from 11+ from both sides of the prep school/secondary school divide.

Before turning his attention to a teaching career, Mark spent 5 years in business as a UK Retail Merchandising Manager for two companies.

Mark is married with 3 children. His two sons attended Eton and his daughter attended Uppingham. They are now working in London or at university. He is a keen follower of a variety of sports and plays tennis and golf with his family regularly. He loves the theatre in all its forms and trod the boards in a number of Staff Pantomimes while teaching at the Dragon School!

Nick Baker will be in regular touch with Mark over the coming two terms and he and the Governors will ensure a smooth transfer from Head to Head. We will also make arrangements for parents, pupils and staff to have a chance to meet with the new Head during the summer term.

Of course we will ensure that Nick has a very good send off in the summer term, when the time comes – and I will be writing to parents again about that nearer the time.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Hanley-Browne', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Hanley-Browne
CEO