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25th April 2025

Dear Parents & Carers,

It is with immense pleasure and anticipation that I share some significant news regarding the leadership of Nottingham University Samworth Academy (NUSA). Today, we formally announce the appointment of our new Headteacher, Mr Carl Elder. Following a rigorous and thorough selection process, the Governing Body is confident that Mr Elder's extensive experience, proven leadership capabilities, and unwavering commitment to the success of every student make him the ideal individual to guide NUSA into an exciting new chapter.

Mr Elder brings with him two decades of invaluable experience within the education sector, demonstrating a profound dedication to serving communities and driving meaningful improvement in the schools he has led. His career journey has been marked by a consistent focus on fostering positive change and empowering young people. Notably, during his tenure as Principal of Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, Mr Elder spearheaded the school's transformative journey to achieve its first "Good" Ofsted rating. This accomplishment underscores his ability to cultivate a supportive and aspirational culture that benefits both students and the wider community.

Mr Elder's deep-seated belief in the limitless potential of all young people, irrespective of their background or starting point, resonates perfectly with the core values and ethos of NUSA. He is a values-driven, transformational leader equipped with a robust understanding of the educational landscape and a demonstrable track record of successful leadership. His commitment to continuous improvement extends beyond student outcomes to encompass the professional growth of our dedicated education colleagues, as evidenced by his experience in providing guidance and professional development to school leaders.

Furthermore, Mr Elder possesses significant experience in Trust development and growth, having progressed to the role of Director of Education and, more recently, serving as Executive Lead for Secondaries and Interim CEO within a multi-academy trust. However, his true passion lies in direct engagement with schools, and we are delighted that he is eager to return to the Bilborough community to lead Nottingham University Samworth Academy on its mission to provide a truly transformational experience for our young people.

We firmly believe that Mr Elder's vision and wealth of experience will build upon the existing strengths of NUSA, propelling us towards even greater success and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to flourish and achieve their full potential.

Finally, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to Ms Leah Miller, Deputy Director of School Improvement, for her exceptional leadership and unwavering dedication during the interim



period. Her steadfast commitment and diligent work have been instrumental in maintaining the smooth operation and continued success of our academy, and we are deeply appreciative of her invaluable contributions. We also extend our sincere thanks to all our staff, pupils, and parents for their continued support and commitment to NUSA during this interim period and look forward to working together with you all in the future under Mr Elder's leadership.

We are incredibly excited about the future of Nottingham University Samworth Academy under Mr Elder's leadership and eagerly anticipate welcoming him into our community. We will be arranging opportunities for staff, parents, and students to meet Mr Elder in the near future, and further details regarding these introductions will follow.

Yours faithfully,

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**Ashfaq Rahman** CEO

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