

7th September 2026

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that your child enjoyed the summer break and is settling in well to the new term. As we begin the new school year, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself and say a little about my approach as I take on the role of Chief Executive Officer of Penrose Learning Trust, which your child's school is part of.

I joined Penrose in September 2024 as Deputy CEO, with strategic responsibility for our secondary schools, having previously spent seven years as a Headteacher in Essex. I have also been an Ofsted Inspector since 2016 and have held senior representative roles for school leaders across Essex.

Although as Chief Executive I am not someone you or your child will see every day at school, I am very aware of the responsibility that comes with my role. Through the direction we set as a Trust, the decisions we make and the support we provide to our schools and their leaders, we have a hand in every child's journey through their education. I therefore see it as a real responsibility to ensure that our work remains focused on providing the very best opportunities for the pupils we serve.

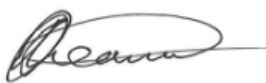
I am ambitious for what our pupils can achieve, and I want our schools to open doors for our pupils futures and for every child across Penrose to have the opportunity to discover what they are capable of. That means having high expectations, making decisions with pupils at the centre and ensuring that our schools have the support they need to help every child succeed.

I also believe strongly in people and in recognising potential in others. Developing our staff and leaders and giving them the opportunity to grow is an important part of creating the strong schools our pupils deserve.

I look forward to building on the strong foundations established by Sarah Skinner, our outgoing Chief Executive, over the past nine years and to working closely with our school leaders, staff and communities as we continue to develop Penrose.

For pupils and families, there will be no changes to the day-to-day running of your child's school as a result of this change in Trust leadership. Instead, our focus remains firmly on providing a high-quality education in a supportive, ambitious and stable environment.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools. I look forward to the year ahead and to playing my part in ensuring that every child across Penrose has the opportunity to fulfil their potential.



Yours faithfully,
Daniel Leonard
Chief Executive Officer - Penrose Learning Trust