



March/April 2021

## PROGRAMME UPDATE

### *Keeping stakeholders, parents and carers informed about Dudley's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Improvement Programme*

#### 1. Message from Helen Ellis, Service Director for SEND, Education and Family Solutions, Dudley Council

Welcome to our latest SEND Improvement Programme bulletin.

I am pleased to announce Martyn Palfreyman has been successful in the appointment of the Head of Education Outcomes and Inclusion.

Martyn Palfreyman is currently Headteacher of Summerhill School in Dudley. Having originally trained as a primary teacher, Martyn has been privileged to teach in primary, secondary and Further Education across the Black Country. He has worked in both Academies and LA schools and has a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of school leadership from curriculum development through to financial forecasting, community engagement and governance.

Martyn has previously worked at Wolverhampton LA in Children's Services and led on the development of two new academies and was a senior manager in the £300m BSF team and project managed 10 new school builds/refurbishments. He has been recognised as an open, honest, hands on leader who is able to get back to basics and make a difference. He is passionate about creating a positive step change in the education and life chances of children and young people and believes that Dudley (and the wider Black Country) should be the trailblazers of collaboration, partnership and teamwork which positively impacts our communities. Away from work he is an accomplished musician and runs a large community choir amongst other things. He is married with two secondary aged children.

Martyn will join the Local Authority on the 1st September 2021.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jeremy Keeble who has been covering this position since June 2020 for all his hard work and commitment to Dudley. Jeremy will be with Dudley until the 30th June 2021.

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