



# CHANGES WITHIN THE OAK-TREE GROUP

**T**he Oak-Tree Group of Schools, a privately-owned group of local independent schools in Essex, has recently announced some exciting developments to its leadership teams from September 2020. With two new Heads and the new Group Education Principal extending her role to full time, this promises to be an exciting future as the Group looks to build on experience.

Claire Osborn, outgoing Head of Normanhurst School, Group Education Principal and current Chair of the Independent Schools Association, will take on her Group Education Principal role full time from September. This will bring a wider responsibility for Group-wide areas such as overseeing the teaching, learning and staff development.

From September, Mrs Osborn will hand over the Normanhurst Headship to Mrs Jacqueline Job. Jacqueline comes to the school with a wealth of leadership experience gained from her five years as Deputy Head of North Bridge House Prep, a mixed 450-pupil school in Camden. Previously, she spent six years as Assistant Vice Principal then Vice Principal of Rosedale College in Hayes and, before that, five years at The City of London Academy, the last four as Assistant Vice Principal. She is looking forward to starting at Normanhurst and has already spent much time in school getting to know the pupils, staff and parents.

Jacqueline commented, "Normanhurst is a small school with a big vision. It's a school where pupils of all abilities, aptitudes and social backgrounds thrive and achieve. I'm honoured to be able to lead the school from September."

Further developments are taking place at

Coopersale Hall School in Epping, where after nearly 10 years as Headmistress, Kaye Lovejoy will be retiring when this term ends. The school is delighted to appoint Miss Moreen Barnard as the next Head of Coopersale Hall School from September 2020. Currently Head of School at Normanhurst, having joined the group in 2014, she has many years' experience working with pupils from 2½ to 16 and understands the independent sector well. Prior to joining the group, she spent nine years as a class teacher, teacher governor and enrichment coordinator at Uphall Primary School in Ilford.

Moreen told us, "I am delighted to be joining Coopersale Hall in September and I am excited to be leading the school to the next stage of its development as we look to extend the school and the excellent education we offer."

Matthew Hagger, Group Managing Principal, is pleased with the forthcoming developments, "This is an opportunity to reshape the leadership teams at two of the schools and also to enhance the Group structure by bringing together such a wealth of experience. We have around 330 staff and 1000 children across the Group and so Claire's full time addition as Education Principal will provide an enhanced focus on the overall service that we provide. Jacqueline and Moreen are both well-suited to their new schools and I know they will offer inspirational leadership to their respective new school communities."

Normanhurst School is an all-through school, taking pupils from 2½ to 16 in North Chingford. Coopersale Hall School in Epping currently takes pupils from 2½ to 11. ■



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## THE DETAILS

### The Oak-Tree Group

For more information about joining the Oak-Tree Group in 2020/2021 visit [www.oaktreeschools.co.uk](http://www.oaktreeschools.co.uk)