

12 February 2019

Dear Families,

I'm writing to share two pieces of good news with you.

Firstly, I have been appointed as the permanent Head of School for The Rise: a school I know well, care passionately about and am deeply committed to. It is a privilege to continue to lead this very special community on the next stage of its journey. I wish to thank all the staff, pupils and families for your support during the Autumn term.

Secondly, you may notice the slight change in job title from Head Teacher to Head of School. This is because over the coming term Ambitious about Autism will appoint an Executive Head Teacher who will help develop both The Rise and its other school, The Treehouse School which is in north London.

Furthermore, Ambitious about Autism and The Rise are committed to reaching and supporting an ever increasing number of young people and families. Therefore the new post of Executive Headteacher will support this growth and the opening of new provisions.

Ambitious about Autism launched its Ambitious Approach in September 2018 – you can read more about it here: <https://www.ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk/education/our-educational-approach>.

This is reflected in our 2020 vision:

#### Our 2020 Vision at The Rise School

- Create a **V**ibrant **L**earning **C**ommunity (VLC) and be an exemplar of best practice for children with autism, social communication needs but who are able to access a broadly age related curriculum.
- Children and adults are happy to come to school every day and are PROUD of what they achieve
- Parents and carers are confident that their children are safe, happy, making good progress and that their voices are heard
- All pupils are given the support and challenge they need to learn and succeed in the world beyond school
- All staff create consistently positive learning experiences that engage and challenge all our autistic pupils – **The Rise Way**

We will continue to work tirelessly to make this a vision a reality, and with support of the newly appointed Executive Headteacher, we will endeavour to make this a possibility for more families.

As always, your partnership is vital to the continued success of your child and the school, so if you have any questions please do just get in touch.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Ralston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'H' and 'R'.

Helen Ralston  
Head Teacher