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Media Release

Academies to join larger Trust

Two popular Lincoln schools are set to join a local, high-performing multi-academy trust in a move that will benefit children and staff.

Lincoln Castle Academy and Ermine Primary Academy intend to become part of Healing Multi-Academy Trust from September.

The move will improve teaching and learning by adding capacity to staffing and improve training opportunities, said headteachers Louise Laming and David Manby.

“The priority was to make improvements that benefit our pupils,” said Mrs Laming, head of Lincoln Castle on Riseholme Road.

Both schools – which currently form the Academy of Lincoln Trust – announced to staff and parents in January they were looking to join another multi-academy trust.

Trustees, Governors, the Chief Executive Officer and the leadership teams had explored the options available.

“We have sought to find the right fit for our academy, believing as we do in the importance of a caring inclusive culture which values each individual child,” said Mrs Laming.

“Being part of a larger Trust will mean we are able to generate financial efficiencies which will directly impact on the quality of education provided as well as resources and improvements to the school site.

“We value our staff and have sought their views and involved them at all stages of discussions.”

Healing Multi-Academy Trust has grown from the Ofsted-rated outstanding Healing School on the outskirts of Grimsby.

It is responsible for seven other schools, including Hartsholme and St Giles’ primaries in Lincoln, and Humber Teaching School.

Mr Manby, head at Ermine on Redbourne Drive, said they were looking forward to working collaboratively for the benefit of all children within a wider family of schools.

“The Trust has values in line with our own and a proven record of high expectations and success. It was also important to us that it was local,” he said.

“There will be many exciting opportunities and we’re looking forward to working with colleagues across a larger Trust.”

Both heads said they did not intend changing the academy names, badging, uniform, start or finish times, term dates or staffing.

Chief Executive Officer at Healing Multi-Academy Trust Mark Knapton welcomed their decision to join “a relatively small, local Trust”.

“This means we get to know and understand every one of our schools and the communities they serve,” he said.

“We set high standards but celebrate the uniqueness of each of our partner schools.

“We are look forward to working with the staff, pupils, parents and local communities of both Lincoln Castle Academy and Ermine Primary Academy in the Autumn term.”