



### **New Empower Multi Academy Trust Chief Executive Appointed**

Empower Multi Academy Trust, which is made up of eight primary-phase schools in Shrewsbury and North Shropshire has announced the appointment of its next Chief Executive Officer, Carla Whelan. Carla will take up the role from September 2023.

Carla is currently the Executive Director of Education at the Marches Multi Academy Trust and has over 25 years' experience within the education sector. She will bring a wealth of experience leadership and a track record of school improvement and will ensure that Empower continues to take a lead role in our local communities and raise educational standards even further in all our schools.

Carla said: 'I feel very privileged and honoured to be leading Empower Trust through the next stage of its growth and development. Empower Trust and all its schools are values led. I am committed to our schools providing the highest quality education to all the young people and families we serve in Shrewsbury and North Shropshire so that we can help advance and improve their life prospects. I look forward to building on the excellent outcomes of the Trust and working with everyone involved.'

Paul Bunting, Chair of the Board of Trustees at Empower MAT said: 'My colleagues and I are pleased to welcome Carla and we look forward to working with her as we implement our exciting plans for the future. We would also like to express our deepest thanks to the current and founding CEO, Ian Nurser, who has announced his retirement from the end of the academic year. Ian was instrumental in establishing Empower MAT and he has carefully and sensitively led the Trust and all its schools through its foundation and development. We are particularly appreciative of Ian's leadership during the difficult and challenging times we all faced during the pandemic.'

The focus of the Trust has been on providing the highest quality of education for every child and to create an exceptional environment in which our teachers can deliver the learning and life skills which equip all our pupils well for the future. We are confident that Carla will maintain this and lead the schools and the Trust in its next phase of development.'