

28<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Dear Parents and carers,

### **Introduction of the Bromcom MIS platform**

I am writing to inform you that The Sydney Russell School will be changing the way that it administers pupil data.

At this stage there is no action for you to take; parents and carers will not notice any change in ways of working immediately, and any actions for parents and carers will be communicated in due course.

#### **Context**

As a school, we have used SIMS MIS (Management Information System) (“SIMS”) for a number of years for capturing all relevant types of pupil data to enable us to provide a proper education for your children. Edulink has provided us with a platform for communicating attendance, attainment and behaviour, as well as school updates and information, with parents and carers.

Following a review of the effectiveness of SIMS to satisfy our needs by the Partnership Learning Trust (“PLT”), it has been decided to replace SIMS with another platform which is better able to fulfil our needs. Following a procurement exercise by PLT, it has been decided to replace SIMS with a new cloud-based platform provider – Bromcom MIS (“Bromcom”).

Bromcom is used widely across the United Kingdom and will fulfil a similar function to SIMS. However, this choice of system has been driven by the better functionality available to us on Bromcom and our ability to capture and analyse education related data in a more intelligent way. Taken together, this will help us to deliver better educational outcomes.

In choosing Bromcom, we were also satisfied that your children’s personal data would be held safely and securely in accordance with expected data security standards in order to satisfy our data protection requirements.

I would like to stress that we will still be collecting the same information in respect of your children - we will just be holding it in a different way. In addition, we will continue to only use your children’s personal data for the management of their education and the operation of the school.

The introduction of Bromcom requires exporting a considerable amount of existing data from SIMS to Bromcom. As you can imagine, this is going to entail work to check the accuracy of this data transfer.

#### **What does this mean for you?**

- With the introduction of the Bromcom platform, there will be changes in the way that we communicate with you. This is an exciting yet significant change for the school and we fully expect that after some minor

disruption the quality and clarity of the new system will enhance the information that you get from the school.

- Bromcom has developed a parent portal known as “My Child at School” (MCAS) and once active, an up-to-date link will be available on the school’s website for you to access via desktop, tablet or on your phone through a dedicated app.

Username and passwords will be issued via email, so it is important that we have up-to-date contact information for you. **Please will you check that the contact information (email addresses and mobile numbers) we hold for you is correct as it is critical that the information we transfer to Bromcom is the right information.** This can be done via Edulink, by clicking “More” on the menu wheel and then “Update Information”.

As part of this process and to ensure we are compliant with the Data Protection requirements, we will be requiring you to check the accuracy of the information we hold carefully.

### **Going forward**

Our transition to Bromcom is due to begin from 10<sup>th</sup> March and we are hopeful that it will be completed within a week; I will update you on progress.

Parents will still be able to use Edulink to access information and receive school communications until further notice.

Once the transition is complete, we will inform parents of how to access the Bromcom app ahead of a move away from Edulink.

There is a significant team working hard to ensure a swift and effective transition and I thank them for everything they are doing to ensure this runs as smoothly as possible.

I am excited at the benefits that Bromcom will provide the school and feel confident that the transition will be beneficial. I will be in contact with further updates in due course.

As with any change of such a scale, there will inevitably be some teething issues to navigate, and I thank you all in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

Yours faithfully,



Clare Cross

Principal