University of Birmingham appoints Director for Birmingham Foundation Academy

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The University of Birmingham has appointed Lorraine Gaytten as the inaugural Director of Operations and Business Development for the new Birmingham Foundation Academy (BFA).

Lorraine joins from the University of Worcester, where she spent nine years as Head of the International Centre. She has also worked as a senior lecturer and a Quantity Surveyor.

The Birmingham Foundation Academy will provide an opportunity for highly motivated learners from outside the UK to enter the university environment one year before the start of the undergraduate degree programme. The University's aspiration is to provide the brightest international students with the knowledge, skills and experiences that will enable them to continue onto an undergraduate programme at Birmingham, or another top UK institution.

Professor John Heath, Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Birmingham said: "This is a key leadership appointment in support of an innovative and ambitious initiative here at the University of Birmingham. We are impressed by Lorraine's enthusiasm and ambition for the BFA and look forward to working with her."

Lorraine Gaytten added: "The Birmingham Foundation Academy is an innovative and exciting initiative for The University of Birmingham. I am delighted to have the opportunity to lead on the development and growth of this truly inspirational programme which will attract the brightest students from across the globe."

Lorraine will join the University on Tuesday 11 September.

For further information please contact the press office: pressoffice@contacts.bham.ac.uk / 0121 414 6029

Notes to Editors

For further information on the Birmingham Foundation Academy, please visit **http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/index.aspx (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/foundation-academy/index.aspx)**

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