

28 May 2018

Evolve appoints Rosanne Graham Chief Executive Officer

Evolve Education Group is pleased to announce that Rosanne Graham has been appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the company and will take up the position within the next few weeks. Rosanne replaces Mark Finlay as CEO but Mark will continue to work with Evolve going forward on an advisory basis supporting strategic initiatives.

Rosanne is a senior executive with strong leadership experience in the private education sector, both in her current role as Managing Director of Ignite Colleges, and prior to that as CEO of New Zealand Management Academies. In addition, Rosanne has in previous roles gained significant experience in strategy, government relations and competition law in the telecommunications sector.

Evolve Chair Alistair Ryan said the Board, in consultation with Mark Finlay, has decided now is the appropriate time to make the change and bring in a new CEO.

“Over the past few months Mark has worked with senior managers to determine the priority areas which will require particular focus in order to improve Evolve’s performance in the medium to long term.

“Mark feels that the company is now moving to a phase of implementing the changes that are required. He feels that embedding these improvements will require a quality long-term CEO with a strong strategic and people leadership skill set to take Evolve to the next level. Despite this change, we will continue to be able to tap into Mark’s considerable experience in early childhood education”, Mr. Ryan said.

Commenting on the appointment, Mark Finlay said he was pleased with the selection of Rosanne as CEO of Evolve.

“I worked closely with the Board in the recruitment process and believe that Rosanne is the right person to lead Evolve as it builds on the strong foundations which are now in place. This change will also allow me the time and flexibility I need to devote to my other business interests which, due to my commitments as CEO of Evolve, I have not had sufficient time for”, Mr. Finlay said.

Mr. Ryan said the Board is delighted to have been able to appoint Rosanne to the role.

“The results Rosanne has delivered at Ignite and New Zealand Management Academies demonstrate her ability to develop clear business programmes, drive improvements, and create value while at the same delivering high quality education outcomes. In addition, she has proven abilities in aligning and building effective teams which deliver results for all stakeholders,” Mr. Ryan said.

A summary of Rosanne’s career history is shown in the Appendix.

ENDS

For any further inquiries please contact:
Alistair Ryan
Board Chair
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APPENDIX:

ROSANNE GRAHAM – CAREER SUMMARY

Bachelor of Arts (Political Studies), Otago University

Employment History

2016 – Present	Ignite Colleges Managing Director
2014 – 2016	Ignite Associates Director
2010 – 2014	New Zealand Management Academies Chief Executive Officer
2001 – 2009	Rosanne Graham Consulting Consultant
2003 – 2010	Special Olympics New Zealand Board Member
1996 – 2000 1997 – 2000 1996 – 1997	CLEAR Communications Director of Corporate Development Strategic Planning Manager
1995 – 1996	Telecommunications Authority of Singapore Strategic Planner

Prior to 1995, various roles (mainly media and communications) with Air New Zealand, Praxis Public Relations, Parliamentary Services and Ministry of Education