



28th June 2017

Dear Families,

You will have recently received a letter outlining the fact that Burrington Church of England Primary School and Wrington Church of England Primary School, together with other local schools, are working together to explore forming a 'Mendip Hub' within the Lighthouse Schools Partnership, a Multi-Academy Trust.

With the forthcoming retirement of Alison Waite (head teacher at Burrington School) at the end of 2017, and building upon the strong links established through the exploration of a 'Mendip Hub', the Governors of both Burrington and Wrington schools have completed due diligence with regard to the possibility of developing a shared head teacher role between the two schools. Given that our schools are moving towards joining a Multi-Academy Trust together, the continued financial pressures within schools, and most importantly both are committed church schools, the governing bodies believe that appointing a shared head teacher, with overall responsibility for both schools, would be in the best interests of all pupils and staff.

We believe that there will be significant benefits in appointing a shared head teacher across both schools.

Firstly, and most importantly, there will be benefits for our current and future pupils. A shared headship and senior leadership across both schools will mean that we will be able to extend the learning opportunities for children and build on the respective strengths of each school.

Secondly, we are very fortunate that both schools have extremely dedicated and talented teachers and support workers. Closer working between the two schools will maximise the opportunities available to staff to share skills, to learn from and support each other, and to increase their professional development.

Finally, as pressures on budgets continue to be a real challenge in all schools, developing a shared headship will lead to financial savings that can be reinvested in our children's education.

Our proposal is that Sarah Joskey, the head teacher at Wrington, will undertake this role from January 2018, and we would like to talk to parents about this before a final decision is made.

In the short term, the intention is that both Wrington and Burrington will continue to be led by their existing governing bodies. In the longer term this would be impractical and inefficient. We intend to carry out a formal consultation after September 2017 about federation between the two schools, to occur later in 2018.

We are very clear, that shared headship and federation between the two schools will in no way take away from the very special and unique aspects of each school. Both Wrington and Burrington will continue to be individual schools, with their own character, 'sense of place' and ethos. Both schools have been assessed as "Outstanding" (Wrington) or "Good with outstanding aspects" (Burrington) by OFSTED and it is our hope that appointing a shared head will continue to build on this.

Attached is a short Q&A, which will hopefully address some of the questions you may have.

If you would like to discuss this in more detail with the governors then we will be available between 7.30 pm and 8.30 pm on Tuesday 4th July in Class 1 of Burrington School and in the hall at Wrington School.

Kind regards



Claire Brown
Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Governors of
Burrington Church of England VA Primary School



Jon Mills
Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Governors of
Wrington Church of England Primary School