



Shared Headship Wrrington and Burrington

Below are some key questions and answers which we hope you will find helpful.

<p>1. What is a shared head teacher?</p>	<p>There are many different models for shared head teacher roles across the country, but, put simply, a shared head teacher is where one head is responsible for two or more schools. Shared heads are supported by designated senior leaders at each school, to ensure the smooth running of those school. The shared head is contactable by either school at all times and works for both schools through the week, regardless of where the head teacher is located on a particular day.</p>
<p>2. What does this mean for Burrington School?</p>	<p>For Burrington, shared headship arrangements will mean that Ms Joskey would become the Head of Burrington from 1 January 2018 (although she would work with Mrs Waite, the current Burrington Head, until that time to ensure a smooth transition).</p> <p>The intention is that Ms Joskey would be 'on site' at Burrington for a proportionate amount of time (although contactable at all times when off site). The specific times will depend upon the demands of each school. Outside of the time that Ms Joskey would be physically present at Burrington, other senior teaching staff would have delegated responsibility for the leadership and day to day running of Burrington School. This arrangement already works when Mrs Waite is off-site.</p> <p>The financial savings created through shared headship, and working in partnership will make the school more sustainable for the future. In turn, it will open up opportunities for the children's education, in areas such as additional curriculum activities and support for children including our nursery class.</p>
<p>3. What does this mean for Wrrington School?</p>	<p>For Wrrington, a shared headship arrangement will mean that Ms Joskey would remain the Head of Wrrington School. The intention is that Ms Joskey would be 'on site' at Wrrington for a proportionate amount of time (although contactable at all times when off site).</p> <p>Outside of the time that Ms Joskey would be physically present at Wrrington, other senior teaching staff would have delegated responsibility for the leadership and day to day running of the school. It is important to note that the senior teaching staff at Wrrington already take on delegated responsibility for various school leadership activities and provide cover for Ms Joskey when she is off the school premises.</p> <p>The financial savings created through a shared headship and working in partnership will make the school more sustainable for the future. This will in turn open up opportunities for the children's education in areas such as additional curriculum activities, and provide scope for additional teaching and support staff.</p>
<p>4. What are the benefits for pupils?</p>	<p>For children, we hope that closer working between the two schools and a shared headship will have a number of benefits. As already mentioned, the financial savings will mean that we are able to share the cost of procuring additional teaching and</p>

	<p>support staff. It would be our aim that the close proximity of our schools and our joint church ethos will give opportunities to further enhance the provision for our children. For example through curriculum development, shared staff specialisms, extra-curricular activities and creating a broader school community which could aid transition to secondary school, as children have the opportunity in time to work with a wider cohort.</p>
<p>5. What does this mean for staff?</p>	<p>For most staff, the main task of teaching your children in their classrooms will remain unchanged on a day to day basis.</p> <p>Senior teacher roles will be developed and enhanced to ensure that there are formal delegated roles and responsibilities in place to provide leadership cover on days when Ms Joskey is off site. There will also be opportunities for staff (as now) to take responsibility for specific aspects of the running of the two schools.</p> <p>There will be opportunities for staff to collaborate on a regular basis, be it across year groups, key stages or special educational needs, sharing their experience and expertise. A wider teaching community can also allow for greater career development for our staff, which in turn should aid recruitment and retention.</p>
<p>6. What are the financial benefits?</p>	<p>You will no doubt be aware that school finances nationally are coming under increasing pressure. Wrington and Burrington have, to date, managed to limit the impact of these pressures. Without looking at creative solutions such as a shared headship, the financial outlook is such that difficult decisions at both schools would be needed in the coming years, which would ultimately impact on the breadth and standard of education that we would be able to offer your children.</p> <p>We are keen to avoid this. The governors believe that we have come up with a solution which will strengthen and enhance the quality of education that we can provide. In short, the savings that will be made through sharing a head teacher will enable the longer term financial sustainability of both schools and will allow us to provide additional educational opportunities for children that we would not otherwise have been able to afford.</p>
<p>7. What does federating mean?</p>	<p>Federating is the technical and legal process of joining together the governing bodies of two or more schools. It is possible for two schools to share a head without formally federating, but we believe that this would be impractical.</p> <p>We will be carrying out a formal consultation on federation in the Autumn term. More detailed information will be available as the two schools work more closely together.</p>
<p>8. Why doesn't Burrington appoint their own head?</p>	<p>They could. However, the governing bodies of both schools believe that the benefits of appointing a shared head significantly outweigh the benefits of retaining individual head teachers.</p>
<p>9. What will happen if I urgently need to talk to the head teacher about my child when they are in another school?</p>	<p>As now, parents would be encouraged in the first instance to raise any concerns with their child's class teacher, or to make an appointment through the school office with the head teacher.</p> <p>In urgent cases, where it would not be appropriate to wait for an appointment, then the senior teacher in charge of the school at times when the head teacher is not present, will be available. If required, the head teacher, regardless of which school</p>

	she is at on the day, will always be contactable and able to discuss urgent matters with parents.
10. Is the decision to share a head teacher purely financial?	No. Although economic factors have been an important element in prompting both governing bodies to consider new ways of working, the primary driver has been to further improve the education we can offer to the children.
11. Will our schools change?	All schools are constantly reviewing practice and provision and so change is always happening in schools for the benefit of children. It is our intention that the individual identity and character of the schools would stay the same. Both schools pride themselves on their caring small school approach where children are known and valued as individuals - this is fundamental to our ethos and something we will endeavour to protect no matter what educational or organisational changes we encounter in the future.