



**Ancaster**  
Church of England Primary School

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you of an exciting new opportunity that the Governing Body have agreed for the school to undertake from January 2017. A formal proposal was sent to the school last week requesting support from Welbourn Church of England Primary School whose current Headteacher, Vicky Cook, is due to undertake her maternity leave from January. The proposal requested that Mr Sam Eden, our current Headteacher assume responsibility for both Ancaster and Welbourn for the period of the maternity leave in an executive capacity. As a Governing Body, we deliberated every eventuality and assessed any potential impact for Ancaster. We have decided to agree to the proposal that will see Mr Eden be the Executive Headteacher of both Ancaster and Welbourn from January 2017 on a temporary basis.

One of the main implications was regarding the workload of Mr Eden, who will need additional support in ensuring that both schools run effectively and that the leadership and management of the school remains as strong as it is today. We are incredibly fortunate to have outstanding leaders working in Ancaster and although Mr Eden will be overseeing both schools, the existing leaders of Ancaster will also be given more responsibilities to ensure that both schools remain successful and continue to make excellent progress, under the leadership of Mr Eden. From January, Mrs Talbot will be undertaking additional leadership responsibilities in her role as Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Moore, our School Business Leader will be working across both schools in her position as Executive School Business Leader. The leadership structure of Welbourn has also been amended to meet the needs of this exciting arrangement.

We are excited about the prospect of working so closely with another local church school and Mr Eden is also incredibly eager to help support and lead Welbourn alongside the commitments he holds at Ancaster. From January 2017, we can look forward to greater levels of collaboration, increased opportunities for pupils and staff alike and both schools can benefit from the leadership capacity of an experienced Headteacher.

It is important to note from the outset that Mr Eden remains the substantive Headteacher of Ancaster and he remains firmly committed to ensuring that Ancaster continues to 'Be the Best we Can Be!' Passionate about outstanding outcomes for all pupils, he will have the same responsibilities as those he currently has but with additional leadership support from others within the school to ensure success. Please rest assured that as the more specific details of this arrangement are confirmed, we will make you aware of all of the information that you need to know as we approach January. To ensure you have the opportunity to discuss further, we would like to invite you to an information meeting on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 6pm, where you can ask any questions you might have regarding this arrangement.

For now, can I reiterate how exciting this opportunity is for the school and for our pupils. I look forward to sharing more information with you in coming letters as the finer points are clarified and at the information meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> October.

Yours Sincerely,

*Sally McDowall*

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Chair of Governors

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