



Christ Church CE VC Primary School

Aspire, celebrate and learn...

22 March 2021

Ref: NB2020-2021/059

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from the recent announcement by the governing body, I am sure you will join me in welcoming Rachael Brotherton to Christ Church. It is good to know that the school will be passed over to a safe pair of hands with experience and ready to lead the school in its next chapter.

I am also writing to explain the changes in school during terms 5 and 6; to make sure the transition of leadership remains smooth; and respond to the changes driven by COVID-19 secure guidance.

During terms 5 and 6 I will continue as Headteacher but on a part-time basis (0.6FTE). I will be on site for the majority of the week and will be responsible for school strategy, responding to COVID-19 guidance, finances, recruitment and safeguarding to name a few of my responsibilities. For the other two days (0.4FTE) Mrs Rutt will step up into the acting Headteacher position where she will take responsibility for some of the day to day matters. As Mrs Rutt is also changing her role, Miss Nicola Waylen (Inclusion Manager/SENCo) will increase her responsibilities by taking on the Assistant Headteacher role. The three of us are the current leadership team of the school it is just that for terms 5 and 6 our roles and responsibilities will be shared out differently.

As a result of the above changes it will also mean that Mrs Rutt will drop her class teaching commitment. The year 3 team will become:

- Mrs Steggall and Mrs Matthews who will teach 3HRLM
- Mrs Giles will become full time and teach her current class 3SGCS
- Mr Birleson will continue to teach his current class 3MB

With this new structure I also wish to emphasise that a member of the Safeguarding team will always be available. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) will be me, Neil Baker. The Deputy DSLs are Helen Rutt and Abigail Smith (Child & Family Support Worker).

Traditionally this time of year would be the time when records of achievement (reports) are shared with parents and the school holds a parent/teacher consultation. Under the current guidance the latter is unable to take place. We intend to replace this consultation with a telephone conversation. Your child's class teacher will make phone calls between now and the end of term to briefly discuss how well your child has settled in. A brief summary report will be issued on 25 June which will hopefully be followed by consultations during the week of 28 June 2021. We can confirm this once new guidance has been issued as we are expecting this guidance over the Easter break.

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Headteacher: Mr Neil Baker B.Ed. (Hons) MSc., iDeputy Head Teacher: Mrs Helen Rutt BA (Hons)

Berryfield Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire BA15 1ST
Tel: 01225 863444 Fax: 01225 868283
Email: admin@christchurch.wilts.sch.uk
www.christchurch.wilts.sch.uk



VAT No: GB501-6248-82

Having spoken with St. Laurence the proposed taster day for year 6 will still go ahead on 8 July. This being the case, our traditional taster day will also take place on the same day. On this date we will issue our school calendar and the class destination and teacher deployment. Year 5 also have a curriculum day at St Laurence on Thursday 15 July 2021.

Terms 5 and 6 will also mean that the timetable for PE will change. We will also be able to re-introduce French and Music to the Year 1 and Year 2 cohorts.

PE days – when the children will come to school in their PE kit:

Foundation	Thursday
Year 1	Wednesday and Friday
Year 2	Thursday and Friday
Year 3	Monday and Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6	Monday & Tuesday

In regard to our after school provision, we are handing all after school clubs to FUNdays Club until the end of the academic year. This arrangement was only finalised this week and FUNdays Club will be coming up with a plan. FUNdays Club have asked that families await further communication as they are not yet ready to take enquiries at this stage. FUNdays Club have suggested that those families who might be interested should register with them in advance as new registrations can take three working days. Registration is free and carries no obligation to book (christchurch@fundaysclub.co.uk). The outline plan is starting with Outdoor Only Sports Club in Term 5, expanding this to a wider range of indoor and outdoor activities in Term 6. COVID-19 guidance for after May, Step 3 in the COVID-19 Government Spring Recovery Plan, is still to be published in respect of indoor activities.

Of course, new guidance may well be issued and we hope it will not have an impact on the information outlined in this letter. I also wish to reassure you that the school remains stable and secure during these changing times.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge “thank you” to you all and to particularly thank your children who have coped with the changes brilliantly. The children who have been away from school for a long time have returned with smiles and have very quickly settled into their routines. Those children who have been in school have welcomed back their friends and together have made the school sound and feel like a great place to be. As parents we want you to know how proud we are of the children and the way they have adjusted to the new ways of schooling.

Yours sincerely,



Neil Baker
Headteacher