



Head of School
Mr Des Stokes

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Executive Head
Mrs Rachel Shaw

24 May 2018

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you of some changes that will be taking place at Widecombe-in-the-Moor Primary School from next September. Due to leadership changes within the Multi Academy Trust an opportunity has arisen for Des (Mr Stokes) to take on an executive leadership role working as Head of School across both Widecombe and Ilsington Primary Schools.

After considering this very carefully across a number of meetings, the local governing bodies of each school respectively have decided that this is in the best interests of both schools. We have recognised the challenge for Des in trying to lead a school with such a heavy teaching commitment and this new role will enable him to focus his attention on school leadership and have a greater impact.

We will ensure that Des' teaching roles are reassigned to the able staff we already have where possible. This will mean that the Webburn Wednesday morning outdoor classroom continues to support the broader education experiences for the children. In Upper Dart, Lucy Carr, is expected to increase her teaching time to become the main classteacher. Further details are being worked out which may include some additional recruitment for a part-time role to cover planning time for teachers and when Mr Stokes is off site, a designated member of staff will be responsible for the school.

Des has a strong commitment to ensuring that both schools retain their individuality. Given the close proximity of them and their similar size, Des will be as available as he currently is because at the moment he is usually teaching even when actually on site. We congratulate Des on this step which is a real endorsement of his skills and know he is excited to be taking on this new role.

Yours faithfully,

Widecombe-in-the-Moor Governing Body