

14th March 2022

STAFFING UPDATE

Dear parent / carer,

I write to you with several staffing updates during the Spring Term at Aston Hall. As is often the case in schools, over time staff will come and go, presenting the school community with mixed emotions, both sadness at staff leaving, but also the positivity in wishing staff well in their next role, often promotions and career development, as well as the excitement of new people joining the school team.

Staff leaving Aston Hall:

Mrs Heydon – Mrs Heydon, one of our Assistant Headteachers and EYFS teacher, will be leaving Aston Hall at the end of this term, her last day at school will be Thursday 7th April. It's with very mixed emotions that I inform you of this. Mrs Heydon has been at Aston Hall for 4 years now and will be greatly missed by staff and the school community. She has certainly been an absolute rock to me during my first year at Aston Hall and after forming a very strong working relationship, I am sad to see her go. Mrs Heydon isn't going far though, as she is taking up a leadership position to support another Primary school within our trust. She will be taking on many roles, including Assistant Headteacher there, which will support her on her continued journey to headship which I have no doubt she will be in the near future. Mrs Heydon will also be continuing her two days a week leadership role within the trust, and therefore will be very much 'around' and back to school regularly.

Mrs Norris – Mrs Norris, who has worked part-time as a class teacher in EYFS alongside Mrs Heydon this year, will also be leaving Aston Hall at the end of this term, with her last day at school being Friday 8th April. Mrs Norris is moving into a permanent teaching role in another Primary school within the trust. We wish her all the best and I thank her for her wonderful contributions and support during her time at Aston Hall.

Miss Davenport – Miss Davenport, our student teacher who was working alongside Mrs Ditchburn in Y2, has completed her placement at Aston Hall and has now moved onto her next and final placement at another Primary school within the trust. We thank her for all her contributions to the school and wish her every success in the remainder of her teacher training.

Miss Jarvis – Miss Jarvis has left her role as Breakfast club assistant and Lunchtime supervisory assistant in school. She has taken up a teaching assistant role in another Rotherham school. We wish her all the best in the future.

Mrs Mills – Mrs Mills has left her role as Breakfast club assistant in school. I'd like to thank Mrs Mills for her support to the school and the important role she had in supporting children who arrive to school early, needing that positive and nurturing start to the day.

As a result of the staff leaving above, we also have staff joining our school, as well as returning staff and vacancies which you may have seen on our website and social media sites.

We currently have an advert out for a full-time Assistant Headteacher to commence in September 2022. We hope to be able to share the successful candidate with you in the final week of this term prior to the Easter holidays. This will mean our core leadership team will be back to full strength in September, with a full-time Assistant Headteacher alongside Mrs O'Daly as part-time Assistant Head and myself as Headteacher.

Last week, we welcomed back **Mrs Thompson** to school. Mrs Thompson, who has been a teacher here at Aston Hall for many years, returns in EYFS to teach alongside Miss Leary and will replace Mrs Heydon and Mrs Norris after the Easter break. I know from the time she has spent with the foundation children already, that she is very excited to be in EYFS and along with Miss Leary and the EYFS team, ensuring the children have a fantastic summer term in school.

In a further change, **Mr Brown**, our site manager, is now a full-time member of our school staff. Mr Brown previously split his time between Aston Hall and Aston Lodge Primary school, but given the size and demands of our school site, we're pleased to say he's now all ours.

Staff joining Aston Hall:

Miss Waddington – Miss Waddington joins the Aston Hall team as a full-time teaching assistant.

Miss Kemp – Miss Kemp joins the Aston Hall team as a part-time teaching assistant.

Mrs Wall – Mrs Wall joins the Aston Hall team as a part-time teaching assistant.

With a wealth of knowledge, experience and skills between them, we welcome our new teaching assistants to school in the coming weeks knowing they will provide additional and invaluable support to your children across school.

We are also currently recruiting for breakfast club assistants and lunchtime supervisory assistants and hope to have these positions filled in the near future. Adverts can be found on our school website and social media pages.

As head, I always aim to keep our school community as informed as possible, including with staffing changes, but I'm sure you can appreciate there are often many factors and complexities involved with such things. We are also sensitive to when we share information and the impact it can have on the children, such as our EYFS children with Mrs Heydon and Mrs Norris leaving us, giving appropriate notice but not sharing too far in advance as to cause any undue upset.

Apologies for the lengthy update but I hope you found it useful. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Many thanks,



Mr Holmes

Headteacher