

LINK ACADEMY TRUST

Landscope School House
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Thursday 4th June 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you to let you know that there will be a **significant change to the staffing at Bearnès Primary school from the beginning of the new academic year in September 2020.**

Alice Eeles, the current Academy Head, will be moving to another school within the Link Academy Trust, Stoke Gabriel Primary next year. This move will extend her experience of school leadership and ensure she has a next level of challenge which keeps her within our organisation. I know you will all be sorry to see her leave Bearnès but, I am sure you will appreciate, we all need change sometimes and this will give her the opportunity for personal development and a different range of circumstances to lead. She is clearly ready for that next challenge.

Alice has led and enabled a huge range of developments and improvement to the school. She has been at Bearnès for more than eight years, firstly as a class teacher, progressing to Leader of Early Years and Key Stage 1 and finally taking up the overall Academy Headship. In that time, she has had an enormous impact, making changes and introducing new practice which has transformed Bearnès into one of our leading schools. We really want to maintain her presence in the Trust, offering her another school to put her mark on will ensure that.

Dan Turner the Academy Head at Broadhempston will be moving across to take up the Academy Headship at Bearnès. He too has been a long-standing leader within the Trust with an excellent record of leadership and has a great deal of expertise that is slightly different to that of Alice. He too needs a further challenge and so this move should see further improvement at Bearnès while the school remains in safe hands. Currently no other members of staff are leaving or joining the school and so this is an ideal time to develop Bearnès in this way.

I hope you will all understand that while change is not always easy to embrace, it can bring significant rewards and having thought long and hard about these moves, I am sure that you will see that this is a real opportunity for Bearnès to strengthen in further ways.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for the support they have given staff in these very unsettling times and reassure you that I and the staff of Bearnès always have the well-being and educational development of your children at heart. Bearnès has a very special place as one of the founding schools of the Trust and I have had the amazing privilege of seeing it go from strength to strength - I am really proud of the school's journey. Thank you for your continued support.

Nicky Dunford - CEO

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