

Eastchurch Church of England (Controlled) Primary School

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Mrs Sarah Hunt B. (Ed) NPQH
Head of School
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June 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

The governors at Eastchurch Primary School would like to inform you that the school is currently undergoing a staffing restructure. It has been calculated that the current staff structure will not be sustainable in light of budget forecasts for the next 3 years. This is mainly down to 2 reasons: Eastchurch School is unique and has additional monetary pressures due to having the running costs of two sites, at some distance apart, with only one school budget. This is different to federated/amalgamated schools who have the luxury of separate budgets for each site. The second reason is that the new funding formula predictions are showing there is the probability of further budget cuts to our school in the next 3 years. Because of this, many schools around the country are facing a similar predicament.

The restructure will mean that roles in the school are redefined, made more streamlined and 'financially efficient', ensuring that more money is available for essential resources for the children. Please be reassured that the restructure does not affect teachers and the children will not be adversely affected by the changes. There will be TA support for core subjects in every class and 1:1 support funded by SEN will not be affected. Other roles in the school such as site staff, admin and management are all set to change under the new structure and voluntary redundancies are being sought from some teams.

The new leadership structure will consist of a Headteacher and a Deputy Head/Inclusion Manager (SEN) to oversee both sites; the Head of School positions will not be part of the new structure. It is therefore with regret that we need to you inform you, that although having been given the opportunity to take the new structure forward in different roles, Miss Crowe and Mrs Hunt have both chosen to leave the school at the end of the year. The roles of Head teacher and Deputy Head/Inclusion Manager will be advertised and we are confident that successful appointments will be made.

We know that this has not been an easy decision for the Heads of School to make as both have stepped up to lead the school in the last 3 years in the absence of a Headteacher. They have successfully led the school through a 'Good' Ofsted and 'Good' Church inspection and continued to raise standards across the school. They will be deeply missed.

The new structure does not come into force until January 2018 and until then Miss Crowe and Mrs Hunt will continue to lead the school and ensure a successful handover is made.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this restructure please see either of the Heads of School or write to the Governing Body via the clerk, Lynette Elliston.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Booth

Chair of Governors (on behalf of the Governing Body)

