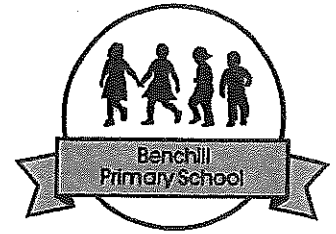


Growing responsible global citizens

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Dear Parents and Carers

We're writing to tell you about some forthcoming staff changes involving our Teaching Assistants and the way our Leadership Team is organised.

We have had to make these changes following a change in the way in which schools are funded by the government. The new National Funding Formula for schools means our school, like other schools nationally in large urban or city areas, will receive less money in the future.

In addition to this, recent changes to Universal Credit and benefits have also reduced the amount of additional funding school gets that is based on the number of children eligible for free school meals.

The overall impact of these changes will see a reduction in funding at our school of £348 per pupil over the next few years.

We clearly have a duty to try and manage this significant reduction in our funding, while striving to minimise the impact on your child's education.

The governors have therefore made the difficult decision to reduce the number of Teaching Assistants in the school, and from April we will have two fewer teaching assistant positions than at present.

This means that while we will continue to have 3 classes per year group staffed by teachers, there will be a reduction in the overall number of Teaching Assistants available to support them.

It is with great regret also that we have to tell you that as a result of these changes, five of our current Teaching Assistants have requested and been granted the opportunity to take voluntary redundancy.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of them for their hard work and commitment to their jobs during their time in school and wish them all the very best for the future.

Teaching Assistants have always been at the heart of the school, supporting children with their learning, and enabling us to teach your children in smaller groups, which enables them to learn better.



Headteacher: Mrs H Eken
Deputy Headteachers: Mrs F Davies
& Miss A Holt
Chair of Governors: Mr J McKie



I am therefore very pleased to let you know that we have already managed to recruit 3 new Teaching Assistants to fill the vacancies we were left with, and they will start in school after Easter.

Governors have also agreed some changes to our Leadership team as part of the staffing restructure.

The number of Assistant Heads who are also Phase Leaders will reduce from four to two. The two Deputy Heads will now take on a direct responsibility for a specific phase in addition to their responsibilities for all of Lower School or Upper School.

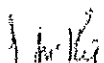
Please note that these staff changes will not have any impact on who your child's class teacher is for the rest of this academic year.

As you know, pupil progress and attainment has continued to improve year on year in our school for some time now and we're confident this restructure is the best way of ensuring this improvement continues.

Benchill Primary already out-performs many local schools and is in the top 25% of similar schools nationally. We promise we will carry on doing the very best we can for your children.

Thank you as always for your support. As ever, if anyone has anything they'd like to discuss, or is concerned about their child, please speak to any member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Yours sincerely



Chair of Governors



Headteacher