

'Sowing seeds of success: growing courageous learners'

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12th July 2021

Dear parent or carer,

The Chair of Governors and I wanted to write to you before the summer holidays to inform you of some leadership changes at Sowerby from September.

Sowerby has always been proud of striving for the best outcomes for children by recognising the importance of professional development of our staff. In line with Elevate's ethos of developing leaders, I want to congratulate Miss Merifield on a new role as Elevate SEND Hub lead for the Thirsk area from September. Her role will be part time and she will continue to be a teacher here for part of the time too. Miss Merifield is an outstanding SENDCo and her hard work and professionalism has benefitted many of our SEND pupils and families. She will continue her hard work and dedication as a Y6 class teacher here at Sowerby too.

I would also like to inform you of my new role as Executive Headteacher of Sowerby Primary Academy and Alanbrooke CP School. Alanbrooke will be converting to Alanbrooke Academy and joining Elevate Trust in the Autumn Term. It is hoped that this will be from 1st September.

I do not want anyone to think of either my role or Miss Merifield's as Sowerby losing anyone. I can assure you all that Sowerby is still very much a special place for us and we will continue to work relentlessly for the school and our families. It is an opportunity for other leaders within Sowerby to grow and take on more responsibility and become great leaders too. This will encourage them to stay here longer and ultimately benefit the pupils for longer.

The Senior Leadership team are very capable and are looking forward to being able to work closely with Alanbrooke staff to ensure that they will also get the highest quality teaching and learning.

We understand that any change is unsettling and none more so than when it is your child and their education. However, we are confident that you will continue to see positive outcomes from this new leadership structure. Should you have any questions or concerns that you want to discuss, please approach either myself, Mr McIntosh (Chair of Governors) or Miss Merifield via the school office.

Yours sincerely,

Keeley Ungerechts
Headteacher

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