



St Mary & All Saints CE Primary School

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5th February 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Re: Headteacher Recruitment

I am delighted to inform you that following a rigorous recruitment process, Governors have appointed Mr O'Brien as the new Headteacher of SMAS. The Headteacher's Appointment Panel was hugely impressed with Mr O'Brien and felt that his positivity, energy and openness, alongside his experience, leadership style and child-centred approach, will ensure the continued success and progress of SMAS, and build on all the thought and hard work that has gone into the school under Mrs Butler's leadership, and before that under Mrs Barnett.

Mr O'Brien brings a wealth of experience in education to St Mary and All Saints, having led two different schools as Headteacher, served as a Deputy Headteacher and an Assistant Headteacher in two further schools, and completed a degree in Theology. He is also a serving Ofsted inspector so benefits from seeing a wide range of schools and innovative practise, as well as being extremely well informed on current best practise in education. Mr O'Brien is deeply committed to fostering a high achieving learning environment and a kind, inclusive ethos in school.

Mr O'Brien will officially take up his post on September 1st 2025, and I am very pleased to inform you that Mrs Butler will continue as Interim Headteacher until the start of the new school year. Mr O'Brien will work closely with Mrs Butler, as well as the Leadership Team, Governors and wider staff body to ensure a smooth transition. He is excited to get to know the school better and very much looking forwards to working positively and productively with families for the benefit of all SMAS's children.

As Governors we always said that we would wait to appoint the right Headteacher for St Mary and All Saints. We wholeheartedly believe Mr O'Brien to be that Head, and we know that you will welcome him to SMAS. We will be organising opportunities for parents to meet Mr O'Brien in due course.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the school during this time of transition.

Kind regards,

Caroline Davis-King and the Governing Body

Interim Headteacher
Mrs J Butler BA (Hons) PGCE
NPQH

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