



Brighstone C.E. Aided Primary School

Headteacher – Mrs R. Lennon

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Thursday 2nd July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Further to my letter dated Thursday 26th March, the Governing Body is pleased to provide an update on the arrangements for leadership at the school from the start of the Autumn Term.

Following careful consideration, and with the support of the Local Authority and Diocese, the Governing Body has appointed Mrs Lizzie Grainger and her senior leadership team from the Federation of the Church Schools of Freshwater & Yarmouth and Shalfleet to provide interim leadership for our school.

I would like to reassure you that this arrangement will not change the identity of our school. We will remain a school with our own vision, values, governing body and important place within the local community. At the same time, we will benefit from access to other experienced senior leaders and specialist staff who will bring additional expertise, support and opportunities for both our pupils and our team.

At the beginning of next term, parents and carers will have the opportunity to meet Mrs Grainger and Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Westhorpe, on a one-to-one basis. Both leaders will be spending time in school each week, supported by other members of their senior leadership team. Over the coming weeks, they will work closely with our staff and governors to ensure a smooth transition and to develop a thorough understanding of our school community.

These interim arrangements have been put in place to provide stability, continuity and strong leadership during this period. Importantly, there will be no immediate changes to the day-to-day experience of our pupils. The routines, systems and approaches that support the smooth running of the school will remain in place, and our dedicated staff team will continue in their current roles. Mrs Jones, Mrs Boyd and Mrs Pelosi, along with all teaching and support staff, will remain at the heart of our school.

The Governing Body's priority is, and always will be, securing the very best outcomes for our children. These arrangements will enable us to maintain a strong focus on teaching, learning and school improvement, while carefully considering the most appropriate long-term leadership structure for the school.

Although the current arrangement is intended to be interim, it may extend beyond one term. During this period, governors will continue to review the effectiveness of the arrangements and consider the options available. Any decision will be made carefully and with the long-term interests of our children, staff and wider school community at its centre.

We recognise that periods of change can naturally bring questions and uncertainty. We would therefore like to thank you for your patience, understanding and continued support throughout this process. We are excited about the opportunities this partnership will bring and are confident that it will help us continue to provide the high-quality education and care that our children deserve.

If you have any questions about these arrangements, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Sarah Turvill
Chair of Governors