



Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School
Stansfield Drive, Grappenhall Heys, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 3EA

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Headteacher: Ms K. Jackson

Staffing Update

Tuesday 03 May 2022

I am delighted to inform you that following a rigorous recruitment process before the Easter Holidays, we have appointed two Assistant Headteachers for September, Mrs Naomi Ottiwell and Mrs Sarah Harman. Many of you will know Mrs Ottiwell who has worked at our school for many years and currently teaches in Year 6. Mrs Harman currently works at St Monica's Primary and is delighted to be joining us in the new academic year. I have every confidence that both appointments will support me and the school community to continue to drive our school forward. Both Mrs Ottiwell and Mrs Harman will have a teaching commitment as well as leadership responsibilities. Details will be sent out closer to the new academic year. Mrs Tyson, our current Deputy Head Teacher, remains absent from school. We hope that she is able to join us towards the end of the year to celebrate her time with us but I am not yet in a position to confirm this.

Following on from the Assistant Headteacher recruitment process, we needed to recruit an additional teacher due to expansion. We are very happy to have appointed Mr Adam Franklin to join our teaching team. (Please note that whilst the expansion is a result of having two Reception classes in September, Mr Franklin will not be teaching in Early Years – I anticipate some teachers moving from the year group they currently teach) Mr Franklin is an outstanding teacher whom I am sure will bring a lot to our school. He currently works at Bolton Independent School for Boys but he is local to Warrington and is very excited to be joining Grappenhall Heys. Some of our children met Mr Franklin during recruitment and he seemed to make a very positive first impression!

We have also internally appointed Mrs Amy Knowles as SENDCo (Special Educational needs and disabilities coordinator) from September. Mrs Knowles will continue to have a part time teaching commitment within school but will be increasing her part time role from 3 days to 4 in September so that she can have some dedicated time for SEND work.





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As a result of the staffing changes we are delighted to confirm that Mrs Gill Stephens will remain with us as the Nursery teacher. Mrs Stephens has developed a very inspiring learning environment for our youngest children and we are looking forward to this continuing next year. Mrs Gordon is moving from a full time position to a part time role across school from September.

We are currently in the process of recruitment to cover Mrs Cunningham's maternity leave in Reception. I will keep you updated on the progress of this and then once an appointment is confirmed I will be in a position after half term to communicate which teacher will be allocated to which class.

Finally (and very sadly) we will be saying goodbye to our lovely Office Manager, Mrs Hamblett, at the end of the year as she takes early retirement. We are very happy and excited for her as she has lots of wonderful plans but we are extremely sad for us as a school! Mrs Hamblett has been part of our school for 20 years and will be a significant loss to our team. We will be recruiting for her replacement in the coming weeks so that there is a seamless transition into the new academic year. We wish Mrs Hamblett a long and happy retirement and look forward to celebrating all that she has done for our school at the end of the year.

I'm sure you will agree that after reading this update we are definitely living up to one of our school values of 'Embracing Change!' This is an exciting period in the development of our school. At every point of recruitment process, the children were and will continue to be at the heart of every decision we make. We are very proud of our school and know that a significant part of its success is due to the staff working within it (Yes I know I'm biased!). We are excited and confident that our new members of staff will enhance and compliment the wonderful team we already have here at Grappenhall Heys and we look forward to them joining our school family.

With Best wishes

Kelly Jackson

Headteacher

