

# GRANGETOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Mr Les McAnaney  
Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Vicky Hanlon (Acting)  
Chair of Governors: Mr Simon Briton

Tuesday 21st January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

## **STAFFING UPDATE**

After 17 years at GPS, including 15 years as Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Russell moved on at the end of Autumn Term. I know you will join me in thanking Mrs Russell for her excellent contribution to the school over the years, and in wishing her all the very best for the future.

This term, Mrs Hanlon is continuing as our Acting Deputy Headteacher, Special Needs Coordinator and Designated Safeguarding Lead, having taken on those duties in early-October 2024. Mrs Hanlon did a superb job during Autumn Term, so parents/carers can feel fully reassured that these important areas of responsibility are in safe and very competent hands.

I will be meeting with the GPS Board of Governors to discuss the situation and make a decision as to the eventual appointment of a permanent Deputy Head. We will update families in due course.

Could I also take this opportunity to confirm some other recent staffing developments:

- Miss Davison is now Room Lead in our Nursery (3 year olds).
- Miss Cruickshanks will continue to work in Nursery, alongside Miss Davison, and we will shortly appoint an additional Nursery Nurse in Nursery (because pupil numbers have risen).
- Mrs Adcock (Nursery Nurse) will continue to work in Little Butterflies Nursery (2 year olds), alongside our Room Lead, Mrs Raymond.
- Miss Tose is now one of our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL). Mrs Millican is our other Deputy DSL. They – & Mrs Hanlon (Lead DSL) – will oversee Safeguarding in school.
- Mrs Bewick is now teaching one of our two Reception classes (Miss Toolin is teaching our other Reception class). This follows Miss Holyoak moving on at the end of Autumn Term.
- As parents know, we now have a Y2/3 class, taught by Mrs Roberts.
- We will shortly be appointing two additional full-time classroom support staff – a Nursery Nurse for Nursery and Reception, and a Teaching Assistant to support Special Needs in Years 5 & 6 (mornings) and to support the children in years 2 and 3 (afternoons).
- We will also soon be appointing a further Pastoral Support Worker, for one day a week, via Sunderland Together for Children (TfC) Early Help Service, to work with Mrs Hanlon and our Pastoral Team. This will add further support to the pastoral side of school life i.e. the work we do around pupil welfare and well-being, safeguarding, pupil attendance and pupil behaviour.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please feel free to contact me via the school office.

Yours sincerely

Mr McAnaney  
Headteacher

**Enjoy - Respect - Achieve**

