



St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Devonshire Road, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 0AJ

Tel: 01253 353641

e-mail: admin@st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

www.st-bernadette.blackpool.sch.uk

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7th February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you are aware, St Bernadette's has been without a permanent Head Teacher for 15 months. In January, Governors began the process to appoint a new Head Teacher.

The School Staffing (England) Regulations 2009 state that 'the governing body must advertise any such vacancy or post in such manner as it considers appropriate unless it has good reason not to.'

The position has been advertised three times previously and each time the Governors have been unable to appoint. The Governors, Authority and Diocese are all in agreement that the leadership and management, demonstrated by Mrs Satterthwaite, in her role as Acting Head Teacher, has been exemplary. Therefore, it was a unanimous decision to invite Mrs Satterthwaite to apply for the position without the need to advertise.

A rigorous interview process ensued, with representatives from the Governing Body, HR, Blackpool Advisory Service and the Diocese. If Mrs Satterthwaite was not successful at interview, the position would have been advertised.

Following this process, Governors are delighted to inform parents that Mrs Satterthwaite was successful at interview and has accepted the appointment as Head Teacher at St Bernadette's School, commencing from half term, 24th February. Governors are looking forward to continuing our work with her and building on our school's strengths.

Mrs Satterthwaite will be supported by her senior management team, Mrs Pearson, Miss Greenhalgh and Mrs Duke in leading the school. Staff, parents and children now have the stability of a permanent Head Teacher and can look forward to the many exciting times and challenges ahead.

On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to thank all parents for their continued support during the past 15 months. I hope that you will continue to support Mrs Satterthwaite and the school team so we are all following the school Mission statement and '**Doing our best for God.**'

Yours sincerely

Mr Peter. J. Brennan

Mr P Brennan, Vice Chair of Governors

Head Teacher: Mrs Alexis Satterthwaite



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