



Dear parents/carers

As ever, schools have a number of staff leave to retire or new opportunities and new staff arrive in September ready for the new school year ahead. This year, we will be losing some staff who have been here for many years and taught hundreds of children from Bramley in their time.

One of our Vice Principals and SENDCo – Mrs Hopwood – has been appointed headteacher in another school in Leeds. She has supported many children here and worked with our families to ensure the provision is the very best for pupils. I am sure she will be a successful headteacher and we wish her all the very best and HUGE congratulations!

Mrs Drummond has been here for many years and taught generations of Bramley families and supported children in their visits to Ireland as well as organising our Summer and Christmas fairs. She has decided to call time on her career and is looking forward to a peaceful retirement! As she lives in the area I am sure that this will not be the last that we see of her!

Mrs Cope has been an excellent teacher and kept Mr Keating well organised! She too is retiring after ensuring our reading provision and approach to teaching English is the very best for our children. I hope we stay in touch (not just because she is an amazing baker and makes the most fabulous Jams!).

Mrs Jacobson is also retiring after years of teaching many children across KS2! Her passion for RE and MFL has provided our children with good access to learning – we have particularly benefited from her links to a wonderful and welcoming Synagogue that our children have enjoyed visiting. We are keen to keep these links going too.

How do you replace four very experienced members of the team?! With some difficulty!

We have some exciting new appointments and promotions to share with you that the Trust have helped us to secure –

Mrs Smith will become our new SENDCo having had this role in a previous school. She is really looking forward to supporting our children and getting them the best provision. She will be supported through our Trust by a SENDCo network and by Gill Robinson OBE who is nationally recognised as a leading expert in SEND.

We will be welcoming back Miss Fernie and Mrs Burn from their maternity leave.

**Raynville Academy**  
Cross Aston Grove, Bramley, Leeds  
LS13 2TQ  
Tel: 0113 2579590  
[admin@raynvilleacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@raynvilleacademy.org.uk)

Principal: Mr A Midgley LLE  
Vice-Principals:  
Miss G Balsdon & Ms J Hopwood

MAT CEO: Mrs A Bennett  
Chief Operations Officer: Mrs J Firth  
Chief Finance Officer: Mrs A Rawson



Mrs Smart will become a teacher with us from September – she is currently a HLTA in school with full teacher qualification and is looking forward to the challenge of teaching at Raynville.

Miss Whatmough will continue to teach and lead our early years, but will also become one of our two new Assistant Principals with responsibility for Personal Development. She is really looking forward to the role and helping to make a difference.

We are pleased to welcome a brand new teacher to us - Miss Vickerman. She joins us fresh from a Masters degree and is looking forward to working with our children. Her main experience is in year five and she will be very well supported and welcomed to our team.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome Mrs Riley to the team as our other new Assistant Principal. After qualifying and teaching in Halifax, she moved out to Dubai to work where she has been an Assistant Principal in a large British school. She is looking forward to returning to England and working with our children. She will lead on Behaviour and attendance.

Although we are losing some staff who have a great deal of talent and experience, we are sure that we are replacing them with high calibre staff. All new staff will be fully supported to settle in by ourselves and our Trust.

The school leadership team will be made up of:

Principal – Mr Midgley

Vice Principal – Miss Balsdon

Assistant Principals – Miss Whatmough and Mrs Riley

SENDCo – Mrs Smith

We wish the very best to all those leaving and look forward to the start of an exciting year in September.

Kinds Regards

Mr A Midgley