



St White's Primary School



Challenge, Commit, Conquer and Celebrate



14th February 2019

Dear students, parents and carers,

Re: Head Teacher recruitment

In my letter in September 2018 I promised to keep you informed about the appointment of a new Head Teacher.

The school's governors advertised the post last month. It is a reflection of the school's high standing that the advertisement attracted a strong field of applicants from leading schools across the country. The governing body shortlisted three candidates and spent two days conducting a robust and intense interview process this week. Each candidate had several activities to participate in, including a session with our school council, teaching, a role play exercise, an assembly and two presentations, one being around data and another about their ambitions and vision for the school. Two of the candidates were invited back to a formal interview with a panel of governors. We were supported throughout the process by our Education Advisor from the Local Authority and an external consultant who was previously a Senior HMI Inspector for Ofsted.

It was a very tough decision and one not taken lightly. The standard was exceptionally high, especially between the two candidates invited to the second day. Both candidates met all the requirements of the post both personally and professionally. The interview panel did make a decision and we are delighted to announce that the governing body offered the job to Mrs Clare Tilling, and that she has accepted. Her appointment has been warmly endorsed by the full governing body and by the external support the school had. Clare will continue her role as Acting Head Teacher and officially take over the headship full-time when we return after the half term break. Clare has been an instrumental member of staff during our difficult past and she has done remarkable work in raising and maintaining standards academically, vocationally and culturally. She is passionate that every pupil should have every opportunity to achieve their personal very best.

Over the coming weeks Clare will be working with members of the governing body to ensure a robust recruitment process to fill her current substantive role of Deputy Head Teacher. We ask you to give her your continued support in her new role as Head Teacher at St White's.

As ever we welcome your thoughts and comments and are pleased to answer any questions that you might have.

Yours sincerely

Matt Bishop
Chair of Governors

Sneyd Wood Road, Cinderford, Gloucestershire, GL14 3GD
Tel: 01594 822311
chair@st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk
<http://www.st-whites.gloucs.sch.uk>



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