



Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to update you on the appointment of our Interim Headteacher, Mrs Andrea Cooper, who will be joining us shortly. Mrs Cooper is already well under way with the planning and implementation of a thorough handover with Mrs Woodgate, ensuring a smooth and seamless transition for pupils, staff, and families.

Mrs Cooper brings a wealth of experience, a deep commitment to education, and a warm, community-focused approach that aligns closely with our school's values. We are confident she will provide strong and steady leadership during this interim period.

To help you get to know her a little better, Mrs Cooper has shared a glimpse into her life beyond school:

"Outside my professional life, I love travelling—discovering hidden gems across the UK and abroad to experience new cultures and visit family and friends. When not travelling, I am a passionate reader, balancing the latest educational research with great novels. My husband and I have five grown children, two grandchildren, and a 5-year-old labradoodle called Reggie. In our spare time, we love walking Reggie in the Kent countryside."

Alongside this transition, we are pleased to share that the vacancy for our permanent Headteacher is now live on Kent-Teach. As part of this important process, we have involved our pupils in shaping the job description. They have contributed their own words and ideas about the qualities they would like to see in their new Headteacher — qualities such as kindness, fairness, a sense of fun, and someone who listens and helps everyone feel included.

Their contributions sit proudly alongside the values and ethos of Selsted, which continue to guide everything we do: nurturing confident, curious learners; fostering respect and responsibility; and building a warm, supportive community where every child is known, valued, and encouraged to thrive.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Cooper into our school community and will keep you updated as the recruitment process progresses.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Clare Blakemore
Chair of Governors
Selsted Primary School