



**INSPIRE NURTURE BELIEVE ACHIEVE**

*Working **together** to be the **best** that we can be.*

Happiness

Perserverance

Resilience

Kindness

Friendship

Respect

11.3.21

## **Re: Staffing Updates**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last year has been such a difficult time for everyone. Mental Health struggles have understandably been prevalent as we have never been through a Global Pandemic before. People, including our staff, have been isolated from their families and friends and the rapid changes in the expectation of the education system have been tough.

It has been particularly difficult for trainee teachers who missed over a term of their final teacher training placement in Summer 2020 due to the first lockdown.

### **Silver Birch**

Miss Mason had her final training placement cancelled and instead joined us throughout lockdown one to get to know the children ahead of the maternity cover role commencing.

As an NQT, Miss Mason was due to be with us until Easter covering Miss Gimeno. Following a period of sickness absence, Miss Mason has decided that it's not fair on the children to return so close to the end of the term.

She will continue to utilise the strategies employed to ensure that she is well and has the strength to continue with her NQT training when she feels ready to do so. We are proud of all that Miss Mason achieved in the start of her NQT year and I am in regular contact with her to offer support in the next chapter of her career.

Miss Gimeno has decided that she will extend her maternity leave and will return for the last week of the summer term to catch up on developments ahead of a full start in September 2021.

Miss Thompson has been a wonderful addition to the team and brings a wealth of teaching experience. The children are very settled and enjoying school. I am pleased that she has agreed to stay with us in Silver Birch for the rest of the academic year to ensure consistency for the children.

### **Willow**

Mr Morris is making good progress and I am in regular contact with him. At present we do not have a return date for him, but when he does feel well enough to return, it will be a staggered process over a period of up to 4 weeks.

The quality of the learning that we have seen with Mrs Pollington since January has been exemplary; the children are building their stamina in lessons in order to reach the challenges and expectations of Upper Key Stage Two and developing their characteristics for learning which will support them in the next stage of their learning journey both as they move to Year 6 and High School.

**Headteacher:** Miss Z Pickard

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**Quality Mark**  
Awarded for face to face delivery of mentoring and training in initial teacher training



**Harrogate & Rural**  
TEACHING ALLIANCE



Mrs Pollington will stay as long as necessary until Mr Morris returns which is great news.

Yours Sincerely,

Zoe Pickard,  
Headteacher