



3 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Appointment of Head of School

I hope this letter finds you well as we approach the final half term of another busy and successful school year.

I am writing to you further to the letter you will have received from Mr McGrane (CEO) announcing that from September I will take on the role of Executive Head across both Belsay and Shilbottle Primary Schools. This is an exciting opportunity that reflects the strengths of our school community and the trust that others have in what we have built together at Belsay.

Please let me reassure you that Belsay continues to be very close to my heart. Over the past two years, I have invested deeply in the development of our school - our children, our staff and the wider community - and that commitment remains as strong as ever. I will be dividing my time equally between the two schools and you have my word that the high standards and personal care you've come to expect will not be compromised. My dedication to the success of Belsay will not waver.

To ensure the day-to-day leadership of Belsay remains strong and consistent, I am delighted to announce that, following a rigorous selection process, Miss Houghton has been appointed as Head of School from September. Miss Houghton is very well known to you all and I know you will agree she brings a wealth of experience, skill and compassion to the role. Miss Houghton will take on the daily leadership responsibilities, particularly on the days I am at Shilbottle and she and I will work in close partnership to ensure the smooth running and continued success of our school.

If you would like to speak to me, then please feel free as my door is always open. In the meantime I trust that you will join me in congratulating Miss Houghton on her new position in school which she will operate alongside her teaching of Willow Class from September.

As ever, the children remain at the heart of everything we do. I remain immensely proud of all we've achieved at Belsay and I am excited about the future.

Thank you for your continued support and trust.

Kind regards,
Mr Shaw
Headteacher