



# St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

18<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to update you on changes to the way we are organising and running the school. These changes will come into effect from the start of the next school year (September) but we wanted to give you an early insight into what is happening.

As background, you are aware with Mr Twelves leaving at the end of the last term, we employed an experienced interim Head Teacher, Mrs Robinson to lead the school. This was initially going to be until Easter but will now be for the remainder of the school year. At the same time DDAT (Derby Diocesan Academy Trust) have been working with us and a number of other DDAT schools in the Matlock area, on a new operating model for the school which will allow us and them to work more collaboratively together. This will be known as the Matlock Hub. At present we have three schools who will be part of the Hub, ourselves, All Saints Juniors and All Saints Infants but the intent is that over time other DDAT schools in the area will join and grow the Hub.

There are some clear intents that we have with implementing the Hub. Firstly, our priority is to maintain the distinctiveness and identity of each school. We know this is important for you, as parents and carers, for staff, our children and the community. So for each school there will be a full-time, non-teaching Head of School who will be the person you go to much in the same way as the Head Teacher today. The Hub will be managed by an Executive Headteacher into whom the Heads of School will report. Secondly, we want to use the scale of the Hub to continuously improve the education and experiences we give to our children and provide additional help where it is needed. An example could be sharing resources or a Sports Coach or Subject Leader which becomes easier as we are geographically close. Thirdly, we want to have a stable school environment. In the past few years there has been lots of change in our leadership and we want to have long term stability with a robust model that has DDAT's full backing.

From you and your child's perspective, outwardly you should see little change.

DDAT have worked with Governors over the past few months to develop the Hub model. We want to facilitate schools working more closely together but to do that at an appropriate pace that is focused on improving outcomes for your children and supporting our staff.

We will keep you updated on progress over the coming months but in the meantime if you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact either of us (Chair or Headteacher).

Best regards

John Higgs  
Chair of Governors

Janet Robinson  
Interim Head Teacher

T: 01629 56813

E: [enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD

Part of the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust – Company Registration Number 09442311