



15 May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, the Governors of Barnwood Park School have been exploring leadership arrangements, as Mrs Clinton is leaving this week. Unfortunately the appointment process for her successor was unsuccessful, as the applicants were not right for Barnwood Park. We were, and remain, determined not to appoint anyone less than exceptional to lead our school.

As you know, subject to the necessary agreements being reached, Barnwood Park will become an academy and join the Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT) later this year. We are therefore delighted to let you know that GLT has agreed to provide interim leadership support until another formal appointment process for a new substantive Headteacher can take place in the next academic year.

GLT and the Governing Body of Henley Bank High School have agreed that Mr Stephen Derry, currently Head at Henley Bank, can support Barnwood Park on an interim basis as named Headteacher of our school.

Mr Derry will also remain named Headteacher at Henley Bank. The two Henley Bank School Deputy Headteachers will step up as co-Heads of School for Henley Bank for the interim period, to ensure Mr Derry has the time and capacity to work with us. As the two schools are only a 10 minute drive apart, this should be perfectly manageable. Mr Derry will be well supported by members of the existing Barnwood Park school leadership team, as well as by members of the GLT Leadership Team.

We are confident that this decision will allow both Barnwood Park and Henley Bank students and staff to be supported very effectively, and that Barnwood Park School will derive great benefit from Mr Derry's exceptional leadership.

Mrs Rayfield will be Acting Headteacher for the period from 20<sup>th</sup> May to 2<sup>nd</sup> June, as Mrs Clinton is leaving on 19<sup>th</sup> May and Mr Derry will be starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

With best wishes,

*Mary*

Mary Higgins  
Chair of Governors

Headteacher: Mrs. Karen Clinton, BA (Hons.), MA, MSc, NPQH, PGCE, CMgr MCFE

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