



## VALLIS FIRST SCHOOL

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Frome

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31 January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

No doubt you were surprised and perhaps disheartened to receive the letter from Mrs Pauley earlier this week, announcing her retirement in July 2019. Any feelings you may have of sadness and anxiety have been shared by your Governors at various times over the past few months as we have got to grips with this news.

We shall all be very sorry to see Mrs Pauley leave us. She has made an invaluable contribution to Vallis First School that simply cannot be summed up in a few words. Her dedication, enthusiasm and sterling leadership abilities have set foundations for the school that both children, staff and hopefully you as parents have benefitted from. However, the work that she has done in creating a sound and stable environment for children and staff to prosper means that Vallis First School is in a very good position to move forwards.

We believe Vallis First School will be an attractive proposition to a Headteacher looking for their next challenge, but there is no doubt that this will result in a period of change for everyone. We would like to reassure everyone that we want to preserve Mrs Pauley's legacy and to ensure that the next Headteacher will build and develop that legacy rather than taking the school in a wholly different direction.

Since Mrs Pauley first gave us her news, we have been making preparations to recruit her successor and an advert will be going to press in the next couple of weeks. There may not be much we can tell you at this stage in terms of what will happen but if you do have any questions please come and speak to the office staff and they will get a message to one of us.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Alex Kershaw-Moore  
Chair of Governors

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – Vallis First School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our children and we expect all members of staff, volunteers and visitors to share this commitment.