



# The Wolds and Vale Federation

Executive Headteacher

Mr Matthew Davies



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[www.woldsandvalefederation.co.uk](http://www.woldsandvalefederation.co.uk)

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## ***'One federation family, with transformation at its heart'***

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you enjoyed a lovely Christmas and had a safe start to the New Year.

The holidays marked the end of Mr Taylor's notice period as Executive Headteacher. I know the end of term was not as he would have wanted or planned as he missed being able to say farewell in person. However, I have spoken with him several times and he continues to pray for our schools and wishes all families a Happy New Year. Mr Taylor worked tirelessly in his role and dedicated his time to establishing the newly-formed Wolds and Vale Federation. I have thanked him for his service on your behalf and know that we all wish him well in the future.

Sadly, Mrs Nicholson at Snainton has decided it is time to find new opportunities elsewhere and will be leaving us in February. Mrs Nicholson has worked at our school for 19 years and will be missed by us all, especially the children in nursery. Her years of service to Snainton Church of England Primary School have been appreciated by all the children and families over this time. I know you'll join me in wishing her the very best in what she decides to do next.

Across our schools, there are some new staff to introduce. Mrs Clark starts her role as teaching assistant in Class 1 at Luttons this week. We welcome her to the team and look forward to her supporting the children in their learning. Mr Wilson has joined us as an interim Deputy Headteacher until Easter. He will take time to get to know all three schools and will support leaders to progress school development plans in the short term. After Easter, we look forward to welcoming Mrs Walker to the role of Deputy Headteacher. She is very much looking forward to working across our federation. I know you will extend a warm welcome to all our new colleagues.

### Coronavirus updates

As I'm sure that you are aware, there are a significant number of positive cases of coronavirus both locally and nationally. The new Omicron variant seems to be much more transmissible than previous variants and we are told is being monitored closely by government.

We will do all we can in school to help minimise the potential for transmission. This includes additional safety measures that we have had in place previously, including:

- Hand washing upon arrival at school
- Minimise classes mixing indoors
- Ventilation of rooms when in use
- Reducing visitors to include only those deemed essential to the safe running of the school
- Adults to wear a face mask when in communal areas of the school
- Celebration assemblies will continue to be held in class



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The priority for school is that we remain open to pupils. However, we do have back up plans in place to move to remote learning as a last resort. This would only happen if we experience a significant outbreak of coronavirus or if we are unable to maintain safe staffing levels. Supply cover is difficult to arrange in the local area due to the significant demand and lack of numbers of supply staff. Please be assured that school will do all it can to remain fully open to all pupils.

There are things that you can do at home to support school. If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (a new continuous cough, temperature or change/loss of taste) they will be expected to take a PCR test and await the results. If they are negative, they may be able to return to school. However, if they test positive, they must self-isolate for at least 7 days. On days 6 and 7 they can do an LFT and if both results are negative and they don't have a temperature, they will be free to return to school on day 8. If they do not take an LFT on days 6 and 7, they must continue to self-isolate for the full 10 days. Please note there is some evidence of additional symptoms of the Omicron variant which include a headache, fatigue and sore throat. You should monitor for these symptoms at home too.

If someone in your household tests positive, or if your child is a confirmed close contact of someone that tests positive, they are allowed to attend school but they are requested to carry out an LFT each day for 7 days. If the result is negative, they can attend school. However, in this scenario you may select for your child to self-isolate at home. School will support your decision and it will not negatively impact your child's attendance record in this circumstance. If the result is positive, you should book a PCR test to confirm the result.

If you are unsure, or have any doubts about the actions you should take for your child, then please contact the school office who will be happy to discuss it with you.

Your continued support for school is crucial at this time and I thank you for this.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Davies  
Executive Headteacher