



*"...Let us remember that, as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school."*

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following on from David Strachan's letter regarding our link with West Kingsdown Church of England Primary School, I write with further details of what this means for St. Paul's, your children and you as parents.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our school community to share and benefit from staff expertise, resources and opportunities across both schools. Where other schools have shared an Executive Headteacher, they have enjoyed good relationships and seen both schools develop.

On a day to day basis, you will not see much change to how the school was running before COVID-19. Class teachers will remain attached to the classes they will be in next year, along with teaching assistants, Mrs Simmons and Mrs Doherty will remain in the school office; although Mrs Simmons will spend some of her week at West Kingsdown in her role as Business Manager across both schools. I will endeavor to be at St. Paul's in the morning or afternoon, each day, and will be available to speak to you at these times. If, however, you needed to speak to me during the day, you would be able to do this through the office as you normally do, whether I am on site or not.

As well as a day-to-day operational role for both schools, I will also oversee the strategic direction and relationships, ensuring that both schools are equal partners. Whilst I may not be on site as much as I have been over the last 3 and a half years, I will continue to work closely with the teaching team at St. Paul's, to ensure the very best outcomes for your children. We have worked tirelessly over the past academic years to ensure that we have the very best staffing team in place and I am confident that we have achieved this.

I recognise that for some of you, this may be a concerning situation and one that seemingly has 'come out of the blue'. The Governors and I have been looking for different opportunities in order to secure the future of the school, for some time.

I would like to invite you to a Parents Q&A session via Zoom on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 7 pm, where you can ask any questions you may have regarding this. Myself and David, Chair of Governors, will be available to answer any questions. If you do have any questions you would like to submit beforehand, please send them to [headteacher@st-pauls-swanley.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-pauls-swanley.kent.sch.uk)

I am confident that this partnership will be a great success and will further support the strengths that we have at St. Paul's.

Yours faithfully,

**Ben Hulme**  
Headteacher