



The White Rose Federation

One Family, branching out together

Executive Headteacher: Suzanne MacDonald B.Ed. (Hons), NPQEL

Co-Chair of Governors: Rev. Anna Burr and Anne Edwards

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12th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The current arrangement that Hensall school has with our federation takes us to the end of this current academic year. Following the departure of their headteacher after Easter, the governors of Hensall school met to review their leadership arrangements ready for the new academic year in September 2024. The meeting considered the possibility of continuing with the current leadership structure, involving our federation, or potentially recruiting a new headteacher for the school.

The Hensall governing body came to the unanimous decision to request that The White Rose Federation continues its support for another academic year. We have considered this request, and the White Rose governors believe that we have the capacity to continue this arrangement. We will move to a formal collaboration as a four-school model, with Mrs MacDonald as Executive Headteacher of the school, responsible for its strategic direction, and Mrs Lindley as the Head of School, responsible for the day to day running of the school. Mrs Lindley will continue as the Federation Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Marwood will be the School Business Manager across the four schools. The Hensall governing body and The White Rose Federation governing body remain as separate entities leading on the strategic direction of each school.

This agreement will be reviewed further in the Spring Term of 2025, and it is important to note that no further decisions have been made regarding the future of Hensall school nor have we formally discussed Hensall joining our federation. The partnership has provided a number of opportunities for members of the federation teaching team to evolve their skill set and step into new middle leadership positions. Staff who would have potentially moved on are enjoying the challenge of their roles and this is going to provide greater stability for our children as we move into 2024-2025. The federation is also able to use the payment from Hensall school to improve our education offer in the classroom, ensuring that support staff are present to deliver quality teaching support and interventions and the pastoral and SEN team can support our children and families.

In terms of our structure across the federation, it will remain largely unchanged. Miss Northway will continue as the full time Head of School at Chapel Haddlesey and Mr Rich and Mr Bealey will remain at Barlow and Burton Salmon respectively, in their Head of School roles. Mrs Newton will continue as the federation EYFS leader and Mrs Titterington will act as SENDCO across all four sites. Miss Maud will continue as the Federation Pastoral Lead with Miss Langhorn as her deputy. Mrs MacDonald and Mrs Lindley will work together to drive school improvement across the schools, and we intend to utilise the skill set of the Hensall staff to add value to our schools through an improved PE offer and their subject leadership expertise in maths and English.

We do appreciate that our partnership with Hensall and our possible academisation with Pathfinder have been significant developments for our communities to contemplate this year and we are grateful for your support. We have also appreciated the opportunity to meet with you to answer questions as the year has progressed. It is normal for schools to evolve in order to secure future improvements, and we recognise that our federation has evolved significantly this year. We are confident that our schools will flourish within this partnership and each school will send out more information over the upcoming weeks to support a smooth transition into the new academic year.

Yours sincerely,

Rev. Anna Burr
Co-Chair of Governors

Anne Edwards