



Rucstall Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs R. Griffiths

Wednesday 23rd July 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

Headteacher Arrangements Autumn 2025

We hope you are well and looking forward to the summer holidays.

As we prepare for the new academic year, we would like to update you on leadership arrangements at Rucstall Primary School following the departure of Mrs Griffiths, who will be leaving her role as Headteacher at the end of this term. We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Mrs Griffiths for her dedication and commitment to the school. Her leadership and support have been greatly valued, and we wish her every success in her new venture.

While we begin the process of recruiting a permanent Headteacher, we are pleased to share that Mrs S Otway will be joining Rucstall as Interim Headteacher from September to December 2025, working with us three days a week. Mrs Otway is currently the Headteacher at Preston Candover Church of England Primary School and brings with her a wealth of experience in education and school leadership.

Mrs Otway is passionate about ensuring that every child has the best opportunities in life and can fulfil their potential. A graduate of the University of Cambridge, she has completed postgraduate studies in curriculum innovation and has worked extensively with HMI and Ofsted. Over the past 25 years, Mrs Otway has held various teaching and leadership positions in schools across Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Hampshire. She has led curriculum areas including Science, Computing, Mathematics, and Art, and has played a key role in strategic leadership through her involvement in several Governing Boards and local school partnerships.

We are delighted to welcome her to the Rucstall community and are confident her expertise and values will enrich our school during this transitional period.

To ensure continuity and support, Mr Blake will continue in his role at Rucstall and will be Acting Headteacher for two days a week. We believe this combination of experienced leadership from Mrs Otway and the consistency provided by Mr Blake offers an excellent blend for our school and will benefit both staff and pupils. Please join us in warmly welcoming Mrs Otway to Rucstall and in expressing our sincere thanks to Mrs Griffiths for her outstanding service. With best wishes for a restful and enjoyable summer,

Mr R Perrett
Chair of Governors

