



2nd June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the final weeks of the school year, I am writing to share our staffing structure for September.

At Park Grove, we firmly believe that professional growth is vital for a thriving school. Each year, we look at moving staff around to allow our teachers to broaden their experiences, learn new skills, and bring fresh energy to different year groups. This is excellent for their career development and ensures our teaching team remains dynamic and highly skilled. This September brings some changes that will provide Park Grove with a fresh and exciting new chapter.

Celebrating a Well-Deserved Promotion

First, I want to share some bittersweet news. Mrs Gartland, who has been an integral part of the Park Grove family for over 10 years, growing from a newly qualified teacher into a brilliant middle leader, has been promoted to a leadership position at another school. While we will miss her immensely, we are incredibly proud of her journey and celebrate her career growth.

Welcoming Our New EYFS Leader

As some of our new starter parents were aware, Mrs Gartland was scheduled to be our EYFS Lead for next year. Following her promotion, we are absolutely delighted to announce that Mrs Sally Sawdon (currently the manager at Phoenix Nursery) will be our new EYFS Leader from September.

Mrs Sawdon brings years of teaching and leadership experience from other schools and will be a massive asset to Park Grove. As she will work across both Phoenix Nursery and Rainbow Hub, this presents a brilliant opportunity for us to open our doors and work on a seamless, whole-year transition for our Phoenix children. It will also allow our Reception and Year 1 children to collaborate and mix at key times.

Please note: We will write to the families of children in Rainbow Hub separately to explain in more detail how this structure will run and how we plan to maximise our fantastic links with Phoenix Nursery.

New and Returning Faces

We are pleased to confirm that Miss Molly McKinlay will remain with us next year. We are also thrilled to welcome two new teachers to our team from September: Miss Catherine Brough and Miss Helen Black (who will be covering Mrs Szulist's maternity leave). Both of these new teachers are experienced and have worked in other schools before joining the Park Grove team. You may also notice a name change over the summer, as Miss Whattam will soon become Mrs Loftus!

Class Structure for September

To help you visualise the upcoming year, here is our teaching structure for September:

- Rainbow Hub: Miss Whattam (soon to be Mrs Loftus) and Miss Tarpey and Mrs Sally Sawdon
- Blue Class: Miss Brough
- Green Class: Miss Drake
- Lime Class: Mr Rogers and Mrs Steel
- Maroon Class: Miss Black (Maternity Cover for Mrs Szulist)
- Indigo Class: Miss Clinton
- Magenta Class: Miss McKinlay
- Turquoise Class: Mr Willson

Our wonderful team of Teaching Assistants will continue to be deployed across the school, working wherever they are needed most to support our pupils' learning.

Next Steps

We are incredibly excited about these changes for September and the new opportunities they bring for our children. We will be in touch very soon to let you know exactly which class your child will be in for the academic year 2026-2027.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Best wishes

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