

# Heaton St. Barnabas' C.E. Primary School

Rossefield Road, Heaton

Bradford, BD9 4DA

Tel: 01274 545019 Fax: 01274 553910

Headteacher: Mrs Diane Smith NPQH.

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The Bradford Shine Partnership **Shine** \*



12<sup>th</sup> January 2026,

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week I am sadly announcing that I will be leaving Heaton St Barnabas CE Primary School in July at the end of the school's academic year. I know that this may come as a surprise to many and it was one of the most difficult decisions I've had to make as headteacher.

Having served this amazing school community for over sixteen years, I can safely say it has been a huge privilege to work with so many wonderful children and their families, as well as the talented staff team and governors who ensure that every day at St Barnabas is special and enriching. I have been incredibly lucky to be a part of it but I also know that the school will continue to go from strength to strength, thanks to the people who remain. Your children have been a blessing to have been in my day to day working life and they have always made me very proud to be part of their educational journey.

Ian Grant the Chair of Governors and the governing body are already working with the local authority and diocese to ensure the new headteacher appointment process is carefully planned so that there will be a smooth transition for September 2026. We are confident this process will run smoothly and will make sure there is no disruption for the children or the school community.

My time at St Barnabas has defined my career and it has been a great professional and personal privilege to be part of such a special community. It has been such an honour to lead as Assistant Headteacher and as Headteacher, however, I believe this is the right time to reflect on my thirty-five years of service in Education and to explore semi-retirement opportunities and challenges.

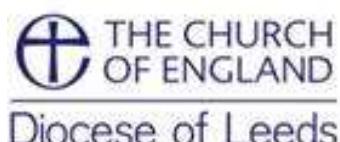
I am certain that my relationship with St Barnabas CE Primary will have long lasting fond memories including the kindness and support you have always shown myself. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of my journey as Headteacher. Your support, as always, will help me to manage a difficult and emotional last two terms up until July.

I wish you all the very best and look forward to celebrating our shared successes together over the rest of this school year, making more memories and achievements we can all remain proud of.

If you would like to discuss anything further please do not hesitate to contact Ian Grant or myself and we will do our best to answer any questions.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs D. Smith (Headteacher) & Ian Grant (Chair of Governors)

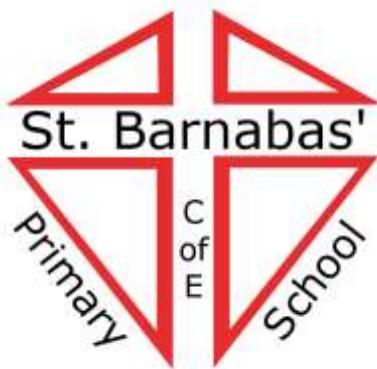


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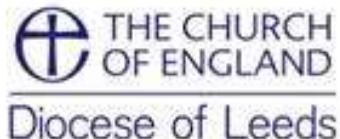


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