

# **Dodworth St John the Baptist C.E. Primary Academy**

*Do it, Learn it, Live it*

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Headteacher and DCEO of St Mary's Trust: Mrs Tamara Gulliver



8 June 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

In preparation for September 2023, myself and Tamara Gulliver (Deputy Chief Executive/Acting Headteacher) have been reviewing the staffing structures within school. Over recent years there has been a decline in pupil numbers. Sadly, funding for the school is linked to the number of children within school. To ensure that we have a sustainable staffing model we have taken the decision to merge a number of classes. Therefore, from September classes will be as follows:

Nursery/FS2

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3/4

Year 4/5

Year 6

As a Trust we have significant experience of schools with mixed year groups and school have been (and will continue to be) supported to ensure that the quality of provision is not impacted by this decision. It is our intention that this isn't a long-term decision, and we will be actively working with school and the community to grow the pupil numbers.

As a result of this reduction in classes, Mrs Nicola Hepworth and Miss Carlie Norton have taken the opportunity to accept posts in two of our other Trust schools. We are incredibly grateful for all their hard work and commitment to Dodworth and we will continue to work closely with them as a Multi Academy Trust. I am sure you will join us at the end of this academic year in bidding them a fond farewell.

We are working very hard to finalise the staffing profile for the classes for September and as soon as this is secure, we will let you all know.

Mrs Gulliver is starting to complete the transition of leadership with Mr Jon Smith to ensure that school is ready for September and progress for the school can be at full capacity.

Please do not hesitate to speak to them if you have any concerns.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'm Priestley'.

Melanie Priestley  
CEO of St Mary's Academy Trust