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Burnhope Primary School  
Langley Avenue  
Burnhope  
Durham  
DH7 0AG

12<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to start by welcoming everyone back following our Easter break. As we move through the next few weeks hopefully we will begin to see a little more normality in all of our lives. We are also hopeful that the weather will improve and we can access the outdoors more.

Please remember that we continue to operate under the Government's Covid guidance and our full risk assessment remains in place.

I am delighted to be joining Burnhope Primary School as Executive Head teacher. I am looking forward to working with staff, children, governors and parents as we continue to build on the successes already made. I know the school has been on quite a journey over the last few years moving from Requires Improvement to Good and that is testament to the hard work and commitment of all involved and on that note I would like to wish Mrs. Adamson every success in her new post. Burnhope is well placed to continue to build on this.

My background is that I have worked in Durham my entire career which seems like a long time. I started at Newker Primary School in Chester le Street as a teacher before moving to Shotley Bridge Junior School as a Deputy Head teacher. This is where I became a SENDCO and my passion for ensuring inclusion for all children began. I took over as Head teacher at Moorside in 2013 and much like Burnhope we moved from Requires Improvement to Good. I then became Executive Head teacher of New Brancepeth in 2017.

My ethos as a Head teacher has always been that children only get one chance at Primary school and it should develop and shape them into well rounded individuals who are academically and socially ready to take the next steps when they come. Primary School should be a happy time for children where they make memories for the rest of their lives. I am firmly committed to inclusion where every child regardless of their starting point makes the best possible progress for them working in partnership with a range of professionals. As parents you know your children best we need to work in partnership so that as a school we are accessible and we all work together in the best interests of the children. Burnhope is and will continue to be a small community school with its own individual identity there to service the village in which it is based.

My plan is that I will be physically present in school two days per week and when I am not in school Mrs. Byson will be available. I want to reassure parents that even though I will not always be on site I am always contactable if you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me by either ringing Moorside Primary on 01207 509724 or New Brancepeth Primary on 0191 3730736. I also have a school mobile which staff can contact me on.

I look forward to meeting and speaking with you over the summer term and working with staff in school to continue to move Burnhope Primary School forward.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Templeton  
Executive Head teacher

