

Alston Moor Federation
Alston Primary School
Nenthead Primary School
Samuel King's School

Working Together – Achievement For All

6th January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to inform you at the end of last term Mr. Stuart Dixon resigned from his position of Headteacher of Alston Moor Federation for personal reasons and asked to be released from his contract as soon as possible; he left his position on 31st December 2019. Obviously, this is a huge disappointment as he had only been with us for one term and has left the three schools without a Headteacher.

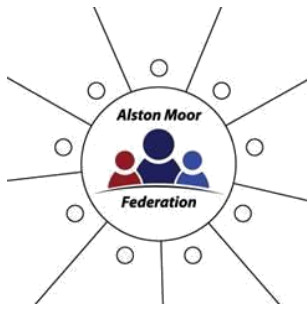
The Governing Board held an emergency meeting during the Christmas break to put temporary measures in place to ensure the students education would continue unaffected. We will be advertising for a new Headteacher this month and looking to appoint as soon as possible. As people apply with their personal details this must be a confidential process. As soon an appointment has been made we will be in contact.

In the meantime, we have put the following in place to enable the schools to continue to run smoothly. Sally Timmons, one of our Deputy Headteacher's, is stepping up to the position of Acting Headteacher. She will continue to be supported by Lindsey Chapman and Claire Reed on the Alston site and Kate Bainbridge at Nenthead.

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Alongside this we have arranged for support and this will be in the form of two strands. Through the local authority we will have access to specialists in various aspects of school life, if and when required. Secondly, Mr Ian Johnson, who retired as our Headteacher last summer, has been contracted to come back part time in an advisory role. He is not returning as Headteacher, Sally Timmons and her team are responsible for the day to day running of the school and education of the children. Mr. Johnson has been contracted purely to assist with the administration/strategic side and release Ms. Timmons to spend more time on the teaching and welfare side.

We are aware as this could be an unsettling time for the students but, by putting in measures with existing staff members who already know the students' needs, taking Local Authority advice and bringing in Mr. Johnson who knows the schools, we have done the best for all students. Our schools are at the centre of our community and the Governors, staff and most importantly all the students know we can rely on your support.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Cooper
Chair of Governors, Alston Moor Federation

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