



26 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to let you know about leadership in our school. Many of you will know that Mrs James has been absent since Easter and we have been supported by the Headteacher of Swalwell Primary School, Mrs Hocking for two days a week. Mrs Hocking and the staff have worked closely these past few months to ensure all children have received the best possible education.

Mrs Hocking is returning to Swalwell full time and therefore will no longer be supporting us moving forward.

As a result, the Local Authority and Governing Body have asked the Headteacher of Dunston Hill Primary School, Mr Carl Sutherland to be Acting Headteacher for the foreseeable future. Mr Sutherland is very experienced, and I know he will want to get to know you and your children as soon as he can.

Mr Sutherland will be in school full time and I hope that you will give him a warm welcome. Mrs Hocking and Mr Sutherland have met to ensure a smooth handover of information.

I know that it is not easy when a school is going through uncertain times but I can assure you that the Governing Body is doing all it can to give your children as much stability as possible. I know that the staff, Mr Beattie and Mrs Wood Williams are working hard to give your children the best education they can. I am sure that they are looking forward to taking part in the range of clubs that have been organised this year and also the residential visits that have been planned for older children. With Mr Sutherland supporting I know all the staff will continue to work hard for your children.

Yours faithfully

C Donovan

Councillor Catherine Donovan
Chair of Governors