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Headteacher: James Veness

26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### **A new Headteacher for the Hendreds**

Dear Parents and carers,

As you will know from my recent email, the governing body has been running a recruitment process for the head teacher post. This was originally due to be run in Spring 2020, following Chris Savage's retirement and Jamie's appointment as interim head teacher, but had to be delayed due to the pandemic when the focus of the school had to be on pupils' safety and then the rebound after the extended periods of lockdowns. We would like to thank you for your patience as this process has been going on; we are, however, now delighted to be able to announce that the new head teacher at The Hendreds school will be Lisa Rees. Lisa joins us from Sulhamstead and Ufton Nervet school, where she is currently interim head, and has Head teacher and Deputy head experience in schools across Berkshire and Hampshire. A short biography and message from Lisa is below. We expect her to start early in the New Year.

Jamie will remain as Assistant Head, as he was when Chris Savage was head teacher, and will be supporting Lisa to drive the school forward to being even better than it has been in the past. I also must say again the enormous thanks we all owe to Jamie for the amazing leadership he has shown during the pandemic, an 18 month period which has tested everyone. I was able to see his calmness and courage close-up during this time and the respect he is held in by me, and all the governors, cannot really be put into words.

I will be at school at various times in next week if any of the school community would like to talk to me in person, or as always, I can be contacted via the school office or directly via [chris.wheaton@hendreds.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:chris.wheaton@hendreds.oxon.sch.uk).

Best wishes,

Chris Wheaton

Chair of Governors, The Hendreds School

From Lisa-

I am thrilled to introduce myself to The Hendreds Church of England Primary School community. I was so impressed with your children's confidence and engagement in their learning. They truly lived out the school vision which 'Values who we are and what we can become.'

I grew up in South Africa and moved to the United Kingdom in 1997 with my husband where I continued to work in the banking and financial software industry. After having my two children, I retrained as a teacher, which started with working as a Teaching Assistant. I have previously been a headteacher in Hampshire and more recently, in West Berkshire.

I live in Newbury which is where we first moved to when we arrived from South Africa. My interests are reading, travelling (I cannot wait to start that again in 2022) and walking (mostly with my miniature daschund, Bella, so probably not very strenuous walking by other's standards).

My experience of leadership and my understanding of the school vision and ethos appear to be well aligned. I am really looking forward to joining what feels like such a warm, inclusive community.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Lisa Rees

