



Longmeadow Primary School

Executive Headteacher: Mr T Mills-Bishop

Head of School: Mrs M Caplan and Mrs K Randall

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An Introduction - September 2022

6th September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope the children have settled in well to the new term and are ready for the exciting learning journey to come.

I write to you today to introduce myself and talk, albeit very briefly, about some of the plans for Longmeadow this academic year.

My name is Toby Mills-Bishop, and I am currently the Headteacher of Waterside Academy in Welwyn Garden City. Waterside is a one-form entry primary school with a growing reputation for inclusion and high standards. We are a proud member of the Agora Learning Partnership and place collaboration at the very heart of all that we do.

I have been asked by the trust if I am able to support Longmeadow this year as their Executive Headteacher, whilst also leading Waterside Academy too.

I intend to split my time equally across both sites and will be very ably supported by strong leadership teams at both schools.

At Longmeadow, Mrs Caplan and Mrs Randall will job-share the role of 'Head of School' and I am really pleased that they will both be here, for part of the week each, to help further support the good running of the school this academic year.

The school will also continue to be supported by two Deputy Heads, and both Ms Laflin and Mrs Badesha will work hard to further improve standards at Longmeadow. Again, I am very pleased that they are well-placed to deliver strong outcomes for the children.

My role will be to provide the school with strategic oversight (think... vision, ethos, culture, policy, processes, and procedures) to ensure that the school has stability, following a period of change, and to ensure that pupil outcomes at Longmeadow are strong.

Central to all that I believe in, is engagement. I want pupils to be busy/active participants in all their lessons and to work hard to meet high expectations. I won't change too many things too quickly, and I am keen to further celebrate the successful things already in place... but (having said that) I have asked the team, following staff training last week, to implement a new behaviour policy.

This policy is based around five 'Golden Rules' –

We are kind

We keep ourselves safe

We let other children learn

We look after property

We try our hardest

Pupils who respect these rules will be rewarded and there will be consequences should pupils not follow them. I am very optimistic that this year will be a positive and successful one for all at Longmeadow. Once the new behaviour policy has been trialled and then agreed by the governing body, we will publish this to all parents and carers on the school website.

Please talk to your children about the importance of these rules at home, in order to support the school.

My vision, for Longmeadow, is one where strong and respectful relationships ensure that children learn in a calm and orderly environment – with pupils busy and engaged fully in developing their skills and knowledge overtime.

I am onsite this morning and indeed all day tomorrow – please do try to spot me on the playground and say 'Hello!' if you can. I'll be the tall chap in the suit, trying to find his way around. I will also be introducing myself to the children in assembly this coming Wednesday morning. This is something I am very much looking forward to, as all decisions made this year will be done with their very best interests at heart.

Thank you all for your good faith in Longmeadow and for supporting the school community with positive energy and enthusiasm. Together we can achieve some incredible things.

I will be in touch again soon with further details of how to get to know me and my plans for the school this year.

Many thanks,

Mr T Mills-Bishop
Executive Headteacher