

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Executive Headteacher of Fountains, Grewelthorpe, and North Stainley Church of England Primary Schools. It is an absolute privilege to join your wonderful community and to have the opportunity to lead the three schools into an exciting new chapter.

During my recent visits, I have already had the pleasure of meeting most of the staff and children, and I have been deeply impressed by their warmth and the strong sense of community across all three schools. It was especially heartwarming to have some children already saying, "Hello, Mr. Parkhouse!" and introducing themselves to me with such confidence and enthusiasm. It is clear to me that our schools offer a place where children are nurtured, inspired, and encouraged to thrive. I look forward to getting to know each of you as I begin my role in the new year.

As a parent of three - two boys and one girl - I understand the aspirations and goals you will have for your children. My aim, both as a parent and a leader, has always been to ensure children are happy, successful, and achieve their potential. This philosophy underpins my approach to leadership: to create schools where every child feels safe, valued, and inspired to be the very best they can be—socially, emotionally, and academically.

I would like to express my thanks to Mrs. Acheson for her time over the last few weeks and her leadership and dedication, which have left such strong foundations. I will now work closely with Mrs. Barker, our Deputy Headteacher, to deepen my understanding of the schools' strengths and priorities as quickly as possible and ensure we build on the fantastic work already underway.

As we approach the festive season, I wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. I am truly excited about joining your community and working together to make a positive difference for every child.

Kindest regards,
Chris Parkhouse
Executive Headteacher

