



Shipham C of E First School

Inspiring Growth Through Nature and Community

Tuesday 9th June 2026

Dear Families,

As you are aware, Mrs Foote is due to leave us at the end of this academic year to take up a promotion to Assistant Head Teacher. She will be a huge loss to our school, and it was therefore important that we took some time to carefully consider our staffing structure for September.

We are delighted to now share our plans with you:

Class:	Lead Practitioner(s):
Willow Saplings (Nursery)	Mrs Watt (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri) Mrs Vrbova (Thur)
Willow (Pre-School & Reception)	Mrs Hooper (Mon, Tue, Wed) Mrs Gray (Thurs, Fri)
Chestnut (Year 1 & 2)	Mrs Mathias (Mon, Tue, Thurs, Fri) Mrs Leader (Wed)
Oak (Year 3 & 4)	Mrs Walsh (Mon, Tue, Wed) Mrs Morris (Thurs, Fri)

Mrs Gray is currently the EYFS Lead at Draycott & Rodney Stoke First School and will be joining us in Shipham from September. She has many years of experience teaching within the Early Years sector and is also the EYFS Lead for the Wessex Learning Trust. Mrs Hooper has also taught in Early Years for many years and is delighted to be returning to this age group, although she will, of course, miss teaching Oak Class.

Mrs Morris was Deputy Head Teacher at Sandford Primary School for 12 years, and we are very excited to be welcoming her to our team.

Shipham C of E First School

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We appreciate that any change can bring questions and uncertainty. However, we are confident that these arrangements will provide our children with a wealth of experience, expertise and support. The new structure builds on the many strengths already within our school while also bringing additional leadership and specialist knowledge to our team. We have carefully planned these changes to ensure continuity for the children and to maintain the high-quality provision that families rightly expect.

We are incredibly excited about the opportunities that this new structure will bring and look forward to working together to ensure every child continues to thrive.

Kind regards,

Sarah Netto
Headteacher