

25 June 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

I am writing to share some important news about leadership arrangements at Edwinstree Church of England School from 1st September 2026.

From September, I have been asked to provide support to another local rural school Ardeley St Lawrence C of E Primary School. This is an opportunity to share the strengths of our provision more widely within our community of schools. As a result, I will take on the role of Executive Headteacher across both Edwinstree and Ardeley for a period of one year.

Please be assured that Edwinstree remains my primary base. I will continue to be in school every morning and remain fully involved in the strategic leadership and the life of our school. I will spend part of each afternoon supporting Ardeley, particularly in the first term, ensuring both schools benefit from strong, consistent leadership.

To ensure that Edwinstree continues to thrive, I am delighted to confirm that Mr Matthew Rowlands, our current Deputy Headteacher, will take on the role of Head of School for the year. Mr Rowlands knows the school exceptionally well, is deeply committed to our children and community, and brings great strengths in care, leadership and vision. He will oversee the day-to-day running of the school, ensuring continuity, stability and high standards for all pupils.

We are also strengthening the leadership team further. Mrs Amy Kelly will step into an Assistant Headteacher role, with a focus on supporting attendance and behaviour, alongside her continued leadership of RE and transition. This additional capacity ensures that pupils remain well supported and that the school continues to run smoothly each day.

What does this mean for your child:

- The daily experience for pupils will remain consistent and positive.
- Our staff team remains largely unchanged, maintaining strong relationships with children.
- Mr Rowlands will lead the school on a day-to-day basis, supported by a strengthened leadership team.
- I will remain closely involved, visible and available, particularly at the start of each school day.

This arrangement has been agreed by both governing boards, the Diocese and Hertfordshire County Council, and will be reviewed regularly across the year.

I am genuinely excited to support another local school while continuing my commitment to Edwinstree. I have every confidence that, together, our leadership team will ensure that Edwinstree continues to be a calm, purposeful and nurturing environment where children flourish.

If you would like to hear more about these plans, I will be holding a short information session and opportunity for questions on Thursday 9th July at 5.45pm, following the Year 4 transition meeting. All parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Jo Gant
Headteacher



John Boulter
Chair of Governors

Norfolk Road : Buntingford : Hertfordshire : SG9 9AW

T: 01763 -271446 F: 01763-274005 E: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk W: www.edwinstree.herts.sch.uk

