



# Biscovey Academy

A Member of the Aspire Multi Academy Trust



**Acting Head of School: Mr M. Brady**

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Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## Changes for Spring Term 2020

Dear Parent,

I am writing to update you on the school's leadership and other planned changes for next term. Earlier this term, we advertised for a new head of school position. Unfortunately, we decided that the overall quality, from the small number of applications received, was not sufficiently high enough for us to be confident of making a successful appointment. As a result, we shall re-advertise in the new year.

Trust leaders recognised that Mrs French is needed back at the Nursery & Infants academy as head of school, in order to build upon the excellent outcomes of 2019. I shall take over as acting head of school at Biscovey Academy until a new appointment is made.

I'm conscious that I have not yet met many of you. My background in education involves working as a primary teacher, headteacher, Ofsted inspector, executive headteacher, and one of Her Majesty's Inspectors (HMI), working directly for Ofsted across the south west region of England. I joined Aspire Academy Trust in September 2018 to be their Academy Improvement Lead. My previous employment has included time in the armed forces and electronics industry.

We recognise that some changes need to be made at Biscovey Academy. Firstly, in general terms, we need to improve pupils' behaviour and attitudes to learning. Secondly, we need to improve the overall quality of education that pupils receive. With these aims in mind, we will be introducing the following in the spring term;

- a new behaviour policy
- a new and exciting curriculum

Our new behaviour policy will focus heavily on praising and rewarding positive behaviour. We will base it on three simple school rules;

- Be ready
- Be respectful
- Be safe

This policy will be shared with you in January. Key to its success will be the consistency of adults; we welcome your support in this.

Continued overleaf....



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Our new curriculum will motivate and engage pupils. We believe that all children deserve an education rich in wonder and memorable experience. One that allows children's natural creativity and curiosity to flourish, alongside the purposeful acquisition of skills and knowledge. In order to achieve this, we must put the learners at the centre of everything we do. Consequently, we intend to build upon the excellent start pupils enjoy at the Nursery & Infants Academy.

Mrs French will take a lead role in overseeing curriculum development across the two schools. Again, we will provide more information about what your child is learning, as we move into the spring term.

I am also delighted to welcome Mrs Davis (current Year 2 teacher), to be a full-time lead teacher at the junior school. As part of her new role, Mrs Davis will drive improvements in mathematics from Nursery through to Year 6.

Our Year 3 cohort has had an unsettled autumn term due, in part, to teacher absence. We anticipate welcoming Mr Harper-Penrose and Miss Hilton back to work in January. Also, I am delighted to welcome Mrs Sissons to lead Juniper class for the rest of the academic year.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful and peaceful Christmas break.

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on **Wednesday 8th January 2020**.

Yours faithfully,

Mr M. Brady (acting Head of School)



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