

Wednesday 7th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you may be aware, yesterday we held interviews for a new Deputy Headteacher. We had 13 applications for the role and shortlisted 4 candidates for interview. Unfortunately one had to drop out before the interview day, but yesterday we had 3 individuals interview for the role.

It was a very long day with multiple stages and requirements. The panel decided unanimously to appoint Ms R Chatrath to the role. Ms Chatrath has been at Woodlands since 2020 and has a great deal of experience to offer to the role of Deputy Head. I am very excited to be working with her as my deputy next year and would like to also thank the staff and pupils who supported in the selection process through activities throughout the interview day.

This does mean that we now require a new Reception teacher, as Ms Chatrath was supposed to be taking that role in September. We are currently in the process of trialling candidates and will advertise the role in the new academic year as a permanent post. In the meantime, Ms Chatrath will be supporting the teaching of Phonics and with establishing routines with the new cohort. She has also completed all of the home visits with Ms Sherborne and will continue to work alongside the Early Years team to offer support.

I am sure you will join me in congratulating Ms Chatrath on her appointment.

Ms Hasker
Headteacher

