



**The Federation of  
Bishop Sutton and Stanton Drew  
Primary Schools**



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Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know that I will be retiring as Executive Headteacher for the Federation at the end of August 2024. I am approaching a fairly significant age and feel it is the right time – for the schools, and for me. I have been a Headteacher since 2004 in three schools and am ready for new challenges outside of school – perhaps at a slightly slower pace. I am also looking forward to spending more time with my three grown-up sons; hopefully, they will feel the same way too!

I started as a Headteacher in January 2004 at Cameley Primary School and began my tenureship here at the Federation in September 2015. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 20+ years as Headteacher and it has been an honour and privilege to lead the Federation for the last 9 years. The early decision to announce my retirement to you, (and my colleagues earlier today) is in keeping with my desire to always act with openness and integrity. Although my retirement is 6 months away, I'm sure that the time will fly by – it often does when working in school with young children! I will certainly not be 'winding down' to retirement, and remain committed to providing all children with the best possible education and learning experiences we can offer in the coming months.

Thank you for your support for our schools, staff and children throughout my time as Headteacher. Thank you to the governors for their support (and challenge!) over the last 9 years or so; we have a very strong and capable Local Governing Board who are now tasked with the most important job governors must perform – a Headteacher appointment. With support from the MAT (The Lighthouse Schools Partnership), governors will shortly begin the recruitment process for a new Headteacher to lead the Federation on the next stage of its development journey.

I have been privileged to work alongside a wonderful staff body for many years. It has been a great privilege to lead such a hard-working, conscientious and dedicated team of people and their support has been truly valued. I know that I will certainly miss being a part of both schools' fantastic school communities.

I believe that the Federation is on a good footing; our foundations are secure and we can look to the future with optimism and confidence.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

Dieter Cook

*Where every child can dream, believe and achieve.*