

2nd September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with great delight that I write this letter to you as the new headteacher of Willow Tree.

To give you some brief background about me: I am originally from Newcastle but have lived in the Manchester area for the past 30 years.

Willow Tree is the fifth school I have worked in, and I have been headteacher at another Greater Manchester school for the past 10 years. One of my previous schools was also in Salford, so I am pleased to be back in the area.

I was attracted to the headteacher role at Willow Tree by its strong, vibrant and diverse community, and its excellent reputation for educational standards and the warm, nurturing environment in which children thrive.

I held an assembly earlier today to introduce myself to the children, and I briefly met some parents this morning at drop-off for some of the older classes.

My first task is to begin to get to know all of the children, families and staff of Willow Tree – something which I am very much looking forward to. I am grateful for the warm welcome from everyone so far.

Before the summer, I visited school on several occasions and met with Mrs Munro to ensure a smooth transition. I relish the opportunity to carry on her excellent work and to continue to develop Willow Tree yet further as a school with such a glowing reputation in the community.

As part of getting to know the Willow Tree community, I would also be interested to hear your views about the school and will write to you again shortly to explain how you can share them. In the meantime, please come and say hello and introduce yourself when I am out and about at the start or end of the day.

Finally, I would like to thank you to the governors for placing their trust in me through my appointment to such a privileged position. I am excited to begin working with the children, families, staff and wider community as we build on Willow Tree's many strengths and continue to move forward together.

Kind Regards,

Mr J Hughes

Headteacher