

**Shobnall Primary School, Shobnall Road, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 2BB**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

A very warm welcome back to all of you, I hope that you all had a lovely summer break. I am really excited to start this new academic year together and I very much look forward getting to know all our new children and parents as well as welcoming back our existing pupils and their families.

I am aware that the appointment of a new Headteacher can be a time of uncertainty for a school community and therefore I feel it may be beneficial to tell you a little bit about myself.

I have been teaching now for 19 years and have always worked in the local area, although do originally come from the West Midlands. This September sees the start of my 12th year here at Shobnall School, the previous 11 years I was of course Deputy Headteacher. I have been privileged and fortunate enough to be able to work alongside so many fabulous staff over these past few years and because of the children and parents, I have become so passionate about working within the Shobnall community. Prior to working here, I worked at John of Rolleston and Donisthorpe Primary School where I led and managed Maths, PE and Design and Technology. These valuable experiences enabled me to transfer all of skills to becoming the Deputy Headteacher here at Shobnall Primary.

During my time here, I have completed additional training which has enabled me to become Headteacher. I completed my National Primary Qualification for Headteachers and completed a 2 year course to become an Inspector for Ofsted. I have a commitment to Inspecting schools throughout the year but the real benefit of this role is that it enables me to see excellent practice elsewhere whilst also being aware of current Ofsted expectations and therefore bringing these initiatives back to our school.

I believe that being a Headteacher is a huge privilege, and whilst challenging in an ever changing climate, it is such a rewarding role. My main motivation at the heart of everything I do is the children. I am passionate about providing a creative and enriched learning environment where every child is given the opportunity to achieve. I am totally committed to inspiring children and adults to strive to be the best person they can through challenge, motivation and have an enjoyment for learning. I believe that every person within the school community should feel valued, where all achievements are celebrated.

I am fully aware that Shobnall Primary School is a successful school and my intention is to reflect on the systems that are currently in place and build upon them. I hope that the experiences I have had can enhance these systems and help continue to move the school forward alongside a fabulous and committed staff.

As a parent myself, with 12 and 6 year old daughters, I am very aware of the concerns and worries that you may have about your children. I fully embrace an open-door policy and will ensure that I will be available to speak to you at the earliest opportunity. With this in mind, please come and speak to me or even introduce yourself if you are new to the school. I very much look forward to working together.

Yours sincerely

Mr Rob Cruise

Headteacher