

31st March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of St Chad's. I was appointed to this position in November 2024, and it feels like a long time ago! I have previously held Headteacher roles at The Federation of St Josephs in Upper Norwood (2008-2017) and St Joseph's in Redhill (2018-2024). While I bring experience to this role, I recognize that every school is unique. I have had the opportunity to visit St Chad's on several occasions as part of the handover process with Mrs. Vassallo. The school is incredibly welcoming, and I am eager to get to know the children, staff, and parents in the coming weeks.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mrs. Vassallo for her warm welcome and, more importantly, for the outstanding work she has done at St Chad's over the past 18 months. She will certainly be missed by the whole school community, especially the children. It is my intention to collaborate with the staff team to continue the positive developments and relationships she established during her time here.

St Chad's is a vibrant school filled with kindness, and the children are a credit to the families we serve. Spiritual development, emotional wellbeing, academic standards, and stability are essential for all schools. It is imperative that we work together to achieve our common goal: putting the children of St Chad's first. The Gospel values inherent in our work as a Catholic school are very much alive at St Chad's, making it a truly special place.

I have an open-door policy, and I hope you will find me approachable. Please feel free to get in touch or speak to me at the gate if there is anything you would like to discuss. I believe that conversations are the best way to connect.

The children and staff have planned Easter liturgies for this week, which is fitting as we continue our Lenten journeys. I look forward to their reflections and the retelling of the Easter story as we get closer to Holy Week.

I am happy to be at St Chad's and to have the opportunity to serve this wonderful community as your Headteacher.

God bless,

Tamsyn Lawlor
Headteacher.

