

Waveney Valley Partnership



Academy Head, Waveney Valley Partnership – Simon Lea

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Friday 6th June 2025

Dear Parents,

I am writing to you regarding the plans for staffing for September.

As you will be aware for the last half term, I have been supporting Barnby and North Cove Primary School. I have to tell you that I will be joining Barnby as the permanent Academy Head in September. This means that, unfortunately I will be leaving my post at both Mendham and St Edmunds. This was not an easy decision for me at all and I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at both schools. However, the opportunity to lead three different settings including The Broads SEN unit and The Link (Alternative Provision) was something I wanted to pursue and so 22nd July will be my last day here.

Mr Huxtable, who is already working with us, will be the new Academy Head across both schools and he will be supported by Mrs Jones, who will be Assistant Academy Head over the whole partnership. She will move away from her class teacher role in order to continue to ensure both schools excel.

The staffing for Mendham Primary will be:

Seedlings Class Teacher - Mrs Eaton (moving from St Edmunds)
Pine Class Teacher - Mrs Ball
Juniper Class Teacher - Mrs Peach
Sycamore Class Teacher - Mr Norfolk

They will be supported by Mrs Chamberlain, Mrs Andrews, Mrs Newton, Mrs Reeder and Miss Evans.

The staffing for St Edmunds will be:

Acorns Nursery led by Mrs Woolford
Oak Class Teacher - Miss Bettinson
Beech Class Teacher - Mrs Brown (who is new to the school)
Rowan Class Teacher - Mrs Allmey

They will be supported by Miss Slade, Mrs Cane, Mrs Hardy and Mrs Thompson

It has been an absolute pleasure and privilege to lead both Mendham and St Edmunds and I would like to thank every single pupil and all of their families for the support you have given me.

I leave behind a very dedicated, hard-working and professional team who, have at the heart of everything they do, your children.

I look forward to enjoying this last half term with you all with the many events planned.

Kind regards
Simon Lea
Academy Head

Small Schools – Huge Ambitions