



Dear Purston family,

It is with very mixed emotions that I write to inform you of my intention to take early retirement at the end of this school year.

This was one of the most difficult decisions I have ever had to make and I have thought long and hard about this.

I joined our school ten years ago as Deputy head / Yr2 teacher and loved teaching that class. Then becoming the headteacher in 2017 was the proudest moment in my career.

I am extremely grateful for the privilege and opportunity to lead our school and spend time with the wonderful children we have, in school now, and all those that have grown up through school over the last ten years. It is the smiles from them that make every day better. I am extremely proud of all that we all have achieved together for the children and the community of Purston. I have been grateful for your ongoing support and the trust you have placed in me to look after your precious children. Thank you.

Over the last 35 years, Featherstone has been my work home and has such a place in my heart. Both top and bottom ends! I have always been made welcome, part of the community and one of my delights is when I am approached, in the locality or other parts of the world and I am asked 'Hello Mr Barnett, do you remember me? These conversations always make me smile.

The advertisement for a new headteacher will be published soon and I am confident that the School Governors alongside the Local Authority will work hard to ensure that the new Headteacher will continue to put the children and their families at the centre of everything school does.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

The Designated Senior Lead for Safeguarding and Child Protection is the Headteacher, Philip Barnett, supported by the Deputy Headteacher, Alison Gascoyne, KS1 Lead Karen Smith & EYFS Lead Nichola Tonkinson

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