

# Stanford School



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Dear Parents/Carers,

5<sup>th</sup> December, 2014

## Appointment of a new Headteacher

As Governors we know most of you were aware of the need to appoint a new Headteacher and the Governors put in place a robust procedure clearly set out by the Government for "Appointing a new Headteacher". Together with the Local Authority (SERCO) School Improvement Adviser, the interview panel met and shortlisted and then interviewed four candidates. There were five governors on the appointment panel and a representative of the Local Authority (Serco).

The Governing Body would like to inform you that they have offered the position of headteacher at Stanford J & I School to Mrs Leona Hackfath, who has held the position of Acting Headteacher for the past 7 months and who has already made great strides in moving the school forward at a fast pace. Mrs Hackfath has accepted the post and will lead the school in this position from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2015. As the children are used to Mrs Hackfath in this position it will offer stability, continuity yet challenge for them.

The full process included the candidates taking an Assembly; an exercise on sifting and prioritising school issues; analysing school and National data, a presentation on what Outstanding would look like for a pupil at Stanford, a formal interview and also importantly an interview with children on the School Council. The children's observations and suggestions were extremely perceptive and clearly focussed. Throughout the day all children within the school were extremely well behaved and presented their school in a very positive way and were a credit to you.

It is a time of continued challenge for Stanford School and Mrs Hackfath and the school Leadership Team will continue their work of school improvement addressing the issues identified by HMI. The happy ethos and good behaviour was commented upon by all candidates and together we aim to ensure that Stanford is a good/outstanding school. This journey supported by you has already started its upward trend.

Kind regards,

*Val Brumfield*

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Chair of Governors