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Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you and your children enjoyed the holidays and feel refreshed and ready for the start of a new school term. I am delighted and honoured to be appointed as the new Headteacher of Hexham First School. I have enjoyed my first few days at School and have been busy getting to know the staff and children. It has been lovely to be greeted at school by so many happy, friendly faces! Everyone has been very welcoming – thank you!

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you all. I have a wealth of experience, both as a class teacher and as a leader, and have been fortunate enough in my career to work in outstanding schools in Northumberland and Newcastle for the past 14 years. I am passionate about ensuring that the curriculum we offer is inclusive, relevant to the world in which our children live and that it inspires and excites learning so that all our children succeed. I hope to build upon the good work that the staff, governors and children of Hexham First School already have in place so that your children receive the right support and the best possible education.

Away from work, I am married and have two sons, Ben aged 17 who is about to start his final A level year and Tom aged 20 who is now working for a living. I also have two teenage stepchildren and enjoy spending time with all my family and taking our pet sausage dog, Stanley on walks.

Hexham First School has a hugely committed team and wonderful children, which of course, is a fantastic place for any new head to start! I look forward to working with you in the future and you can rest assured that I will work tirelessly to ensure the school continues to flourish and maintains its welcoming, family feel. I have met many of you but if I haven't then please do come up and say hello. I have been delighted by the warm and friendly 'Hexham' welcome I have received and really enjoy meeting you all at the start and finish of the day.

Best wishes

Mrs J Overton