

14th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

On 8th January, Sally Wilson wrote to inform you of her decision to leave The Blandford School at the end of this academic year. Sally has been a dedicated and excellent headteacher of the school since 2003; we will miss her enormously.

Upon being notified of Sally's intention to leave, the Full Governing Board (FGB) of the school commenced the process of recruiting a new headteacher, the intention being for the new post holder to officially commence in the role on 1st September 2025.

The FGB established a panel of four governors (including myself as Chair) to manage the recruitment process. The panel has been advised by experienced education consultants and by Dorset Council Education Challenge Leads.

We advertised both locally within Dorset and nationally and received multiple applications in late February. The panel then selected four of the applicants to come for an exhaustive interview process at the school on 11th and 12th March. The panel then made a recommendation to the FGB to ratify the selection of one of the candidates; the FGB ratified the proposed appointment of the recommended candidate at a meeting last night.

I am pleased to announce that Mr Alan Jones will become the next headteacher of The Blandford School on 1st September 2025. Alan is currently Head of School at Fulham Cross Academy in London and is an experienced and successful headteacher with a strong track record of delivering school improvement and excellent outcomes for students. The FGB believes that he will be an outstanding headteacher and will build on the achievements of the team at TBS, including the 'Good' judgement from Ofsted in April 2024.

During the summer term, Alan will be in touch with you to provide more detail regarding his background and, most importantly, his aspirations for the development of our school and delivering the best possible outcomes for all of our students.

Best regards

Jens Bertelsen

Jens Bertelsen
Chair of Governors
The Blandford School

