

PARKGATE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Interim Head Teachers: Mr K. Smithard & Mrs T. Couch
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs S. J. Croxford B. Prim Ed (Hons)

5th March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

The Governing Board is delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Kellie Barton as the new Headteacher of Parkgate Junior school.

Throughout a thorough selection process involving staff, pupils and governors, Mrs Barton stood out as an exceptional candidate. They were the unanimous choice of the panel, demonstrating the vision, experience and leadership qualities that will guide the school into its next chapter.

Mrs Barton will formally take up the role of Headteacher with us from Monday 13th April 2026. Mr Smithard and Mrs Couch will continue as Interim Headteachers until the end of Spring Term. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them both for their dedication and for looking after our school during this period of transition.

With Mrs Barton's appointment, we can look forward with confidence to a strong, stable and successful future for the school. She is already looking forward to meeting our wider community and sharing her vision for the years ahead. In the meantime, Mrs Barton has written a short introduction below:

I am truly delighted to have been appointed as the new Headteacher of Parkgate Junior School. It is a genuine privilege to join such a welcoming community. I firmly believe that our school should be a place where everyone feels they belong - where differences are celebrated, voices are heard, and each child is supported to flourish in their own unique way.

I am very much looking forward to starting at Parkgate after Easter and to working in partnership with our pupils, families, staff and the wider community so that, together, we continue to build a school environment rooted in kindness, respect and high aspirations for all. Kind regards, Mrs Barton

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Dipesh Patel & Khadija Pieteron
Chair of Governors

