



16th July 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of Our School Community

As I write this final Principal's letter, I find myself reflecting on an incredible journey that began 27 years ago when I first walked through the doors of Richmond Hill Primary as Miss Eyvbowho a newly qualified teacher with responsibility for PE. Those early Saturday mornings spent with our school football teams on Sheffield's notoriously steep pitches seem like yesterday, yet they marked the beginning of what has become the most rewarding chapter of my life.

This Friday marks my final day as Principal of Richmond Hill Primary, and whilst this brings mixed emotions, I am filled with immense pride for what we have accomplished together as a school community. Over these 27 years, this school has truly become part of who I am – so much so that my car could probably drive itself here! But more importantly, this community has been my life, and I have been privileged to be part of yours.

One of the most special aspects of my time here has been watching our school family grow and evolve. I have had the joy of teaching many members of our current parent community when they were pupils themselves, and now I see their children carrying forward the same values of kindness, curiosity, and determination. This beautiful cycle of learning and growth epitomises what makes Richmond Hill Primary so special – we are truly a school at the heart of our community, with our pupils at its heart.

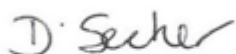
I am incredibly proud of our children. They represent the very best in all aspects – kind, caring, inquisitive young people who strive to do their best in everything they undertake. Their achievements, both academic and personal, reflect not only their own dedication, but also the exceptional support they receive from our amazing staff team. Our community is privileged to have educators who go beyond what is expected, who nurture every child's potential, and who embody the values that make Richmond Hill Primary exceptional.

As I prepare to hand over the reins, I am confident that the school is in excellent hands. The newly appointed leadership team with Mrs Cousins as Principal along with our Governing Body, provides strong leadership and works tirelessly to ensure we continue moving forward, always striving to be the best we can be. The feedback and support from parents and carers is invaluable in helping us continuously improve and adapt to meet the needs of our children.

I am particularly proud of the significant developments we have completed to secure the school's future. The renewed sustainable heating system, comprehensive classroom refurbishments, new roof, enhanced playground, and developed play facilities all represent our commitment to providing the best possible learning environment for our children. These improvements, combined with our excellent outcomes across all phases of learning, position Richmond Hill Primary perfectly for continued success.

While I may be stepping down as Principal, I am not saying goodbye entirely. In my new Trust position, I will still be visiting Richmond Hill for school improvement work, which means I will continue to witness the school's ongoing journey of excellence. Most importantly, I am handing over leadership to a highly skilled team who will carry forward the vision, values, and ethos that define our school. Thank you to every member of our school community – staff, pupils, governors, parents, and carers – for making these 27 years so meaningful. You have allowed me to be part of something truly special, and I know that Richmond Hill Primary will continue to thrive, nurture, and inspire for many years to come.

With heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for the future,



Mrs D Secker

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