



# HEATH FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Inspire Achieve Celebrate

Field Avenue Hatton Derbyshire DE65 5EQ Telephone/Fax: 01283 813255

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Website: [www.heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk)

Executive Headteacher Mrs Nicola Oliphant

Head of School Miss Sophie McBride

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Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the end of a very soggy, rain filled January to start our new 2026 year off. We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas holidays – it seems like a distant memory now! Staff have asked me to say a huge thank you for their kind, generous gifts, cards and well wishes from you all. The children have returned with excitement and focus since the Spring term began. We have many engaging and exciting learning opportunities lined up for the second half of the year and look forward to sharing those with you over the next few months.

I am also writing to share some exciting updates regarding our commitment to ensuring the safety and security of our children, staff and visitors. You may have noticed we are in the process of implementing new fencing and gate security measures outside of the school and the playground perimeter, which will provide an additional layer of protection for everyone entering our premises.

The new fencing and secure gates are designed to enhance safety during school opening hours, making it easier for us to monitor access to the school grounds and adding extra protection to the classroom and office at the front of school. Additionally, we have introduced a new signing-in system for parents and visitors, which will streamline the process of checking in and out of the school (and dare I say it... bring us into 2026 with a bang!). This programme is part of our ongoing efforts to tighten and enhance our safeguarding protocols, and we believe these improvements will significantly strengthen our already robust safety measures on site.

We understand that the safety of your children is of utmost importance, and we are committed to maintaining a secure environment for their education. These enhancements reflect our dedication to providing a safe learning atmosphere and reassure you that we are continually assessing and improving our security practices.

Derbyshire County Council have been in the process of transitioning every school across the county from our current Management Information System (MIS) to Arbor. We are in the final window of this and are in the process of moving all of our systems over to Arbor. Mrs McCall has been working hard to learn how to navigate the new systems and software, she will be sending out information and links to download the Arbor app and link it to our school account. We encourage you to download it, as it will serve as your gateway to everything you currently use with school for payments, emails, editing your personal data, and booking parents' evening appointments, etc. This system is designed to streamline communication and improve your experience as a parent. Please be patient with us during this change over to the new systems – we hope they go smoothly 😊

There may be a brief period where our access to our current systems and our new system is interrupted. Please do not make any further payments on School Money, so that balances can be moved over. As part of the change, if you need to contact school staff via email moving forward, please do so by using [admin@heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk) or [senco@heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:senco@heathfields.derbyshire.sch.uk) rather than teachers direct email.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe and secure environment for our children. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to reach



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out. We appreciate your cooperation in downloading the Arbor app and look forward to these new technologies enhancing and streamlining everyone's precious time.

Kind regards

Mrs Nicola Oliphant

Executive Headteacher

