SEND Coffee Afternoon Friday 25th March

SEND support in summer 22 and beyond

Mrs Bridgman explained that arrangements for SENCo role in school would change from summer term as the school joins the new federation.

Mrs Bridgman will continue to be the named SENCo at Tonwell St Mary's for summer term having overall responsibility and supporting more significant work.

Mrs Coleman will be the Deputy SENCo supporting Mrs Bridgman with paperwork, referrals and being a point of contact in school on a daily basis.

The class teacher should still be the first point of contact for any lower level questions or concerns. The new Governing Board will work to decide the best staff structure for the federation moving forward from September 2022.

Diversity in our curriculum

Mrs Bridgman shared examples of the school's curriculum 'intent' statements from the website. These documents show what will be taught in each subject and the expectations for each year group. They can be found on the website at Curriculum/Long Term Intent Statements. Staff have been updating the documents to ensure there is a diverse range of content. For example, our music curriculum includes musicians with disabilities, male and female and from across the world. Our history curriculum has been updated to include a more diverse group of famous people from the past.

Mrs Bridgman also shared the school's equality objectives and progress towards them. Mrs Bridgman asked for parents' suggestion about how to promote diversity for our children, particularly in relation to representation for SEND. Parents shared many interesting ideas, including: having role models to talk to children (e.g. a person with dyslexia, a sports person for growth mindset with a disability, helping other children and wider school community understand neurodiversity, using child-friendly posters to explain myths, how a child might present and what can help them (similar to work place posters used at Balfour Beatty).