

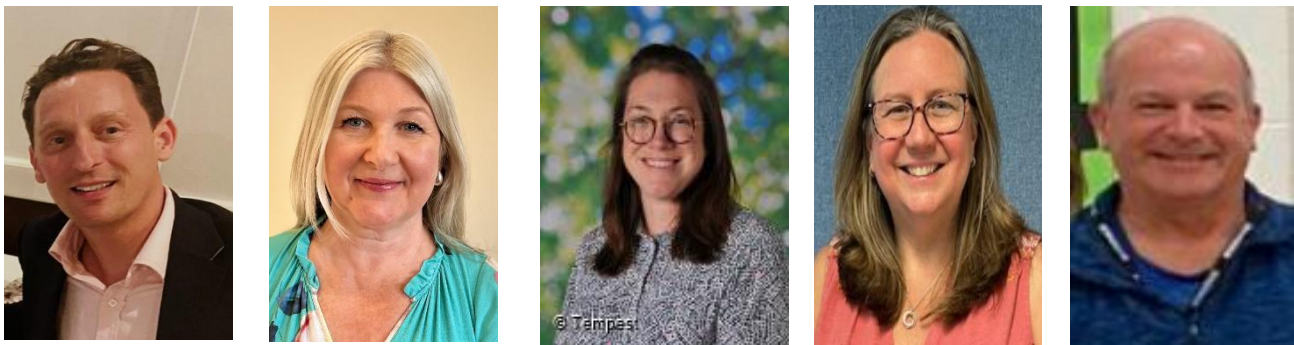


Dear Framfield School Community,

As you are aware, Framfield Primary will be in a partnership with The Pioneer Federation from September 2025.
<https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/>

I have enjoyed visiting the school to get to know the staff. I have also been working with Mrs Roberts and the Framfield Governors over the last few months in preparation for the partnership.

I wanted to write to you to introduce myself- James Procter, Natalie Riley, Kayleigh Vile, Caroline Powell and Alan Brundle.



I began leading the Pioneer Schools in 2012. Since that time, there have been rapid and sustained school improvements and all our schools are now categorised by Ofsted as Good and by SIAMS as outstanding. Each of our schools have retained their uniqueness and benefited from working closely together. All Pioneer Schools have had very successful Ofsted inspections in the last 10 months. Please see the reports on our websites. Effective inclusion, curriculum design and collaboration have come across as consistent strengths. *'Excellent/exceptional pupil behaviour, a focused, calm and caring environment, ambitious, inclusive and well-designed curriculum and strong leadership at all levels with staff & pupils benefiting from the very effective collaborative working across the Federation of schools.'*

Natalie Riley will be the full time Head of School at Framfield. Natalie is currently the Senior Teacher at Park Mead Primary, a very experienced teacher and has made a significant impact on curriculum developments across the Pioneer federation and on the strong pupil outcomes at Park Mead.

'I am committed to the success of Framfield Primary School. The pupils and the staff have experienced a lot of change in a few short years and I will bring stability to this delightful school. I will strive to ensure all pupils receive the best education they deserve, as part of the Pioneer Federation. I am determined that the school will continue to build on its reputation and continue to flourish and maintain its position in the heart of the community. I look forward to meeting you and your children before the summer holidays.'

Kayleigh Vile is the Headteacher at Chiddingly Primary School and will be supporting at Framfield for half a day weekly.

Caroline Powell is the Headteacher at Groombridge St Thomas and will be supporting at Framfield for a day weekly.

Alan Brundle is the Pioneer Chair of Governors. Alan has been a Governor for 25 years and also works as a Local Support Governor (LSG) lending support to other Governing bodies.

We believe that there should be a central focus on creative, innovative and engaging teaching that develops a love and interest in learning. Our vision is for children to value learning as a creative endeavour that underpins their

aspirations for great futures and to ensure that we are all focused on seeing opportunities and believing that anything is possible. We love seeing the children in the Federation finding their learning exciting, particularly when they actively explore concepts, apply skills, ask questions and are motivated by independent discovery.

Our partnership philosophy is about retaining school community uniqueness and building strength through effective collaboration. Framfield Primary will also be in partnership with Pioneer from September 2025 and I believe that with all eight small schools working collaboratively, we are stronger together. We will be actively developing staff links across the schools to share resources, talents and reduce workload. We look forward to pupils meeting across the Federation- through trips and events.

The next 2 paragraphs are from Mr Tim Murray - Chair of Governors, St Thomas à Becket CE Primary Federation

Following the letter at the end of term 5, parents and families know that the St Thomas a Becket Governors have been working with the Diocese and Local Authority to identify a long-term term stable leadership solution for Framfield School. Our current Federation with just two schools, Blackboys and Framfield, is too small to provide the level of leadership support and expertise needed in a modern small village primary school. Prior to being able to inform staff fully about our plans for the future, we received a number of resignations. St Thomas a Becket Governors are incredibly grateful to the Pioneer governors led by Alan Brundle and his leadership team for stepping in to support Framfield with a fantastic new team for September.

The period between Easter and spring half term is the peak period for teaching staff to resign and move on. We will be saying farewell to several staff at the end of this school year. We are delighted for Mrs Kent who is taking a career move into teacher training, passing on her Early Years experience to a new generation of students; Mrs Kent has been with Framfield for 11 years and will be missed. Ms Black, returning from maternity leave, has taken a teaching role close to home. We thank Ms Black for the last 5 years at Framfield. Over the last few years, Mrs Pepper and Mrs Cranston have taught many children across the school. Both are now leaving to pursue new exciting opportunities. Mrs Cranston is very excited to follow a new path teaching both children and adults through art and craft workshops. Mrs Pepper will continue her work within the Uckfield community through the church, and we are very grateful for the dedication she has shown our church school. Ms Lancaster is also leaving us after completing her first two years as an early career teacher. Mrs Levey has decided to retire from her role at Framfield. She has been the school's SENCo for 13 years. And Mrs Duncan will be retiring after 23 years. Her roles have been many and varied but her work across the whole school has been significant. As many of you will already know, Mrs Roberts, our Interim Head Teacher, will be leaving us to take up a post to lead a primary school in Brighton & Hove. All the staff have said how much they will miss being part of the team at Framfield. We are grateful for the hard work from all staff at Framfield over many years, and in particular the last four years since the pandemic, which have been the most challenging with so many changes in the school. I understand that Mrs Roberts and the team will use the upcoming three newsletters before the summer to share their reflections and their plans.

The new leadership team will work to align the Framfield curriculum with the Pioneer curriculum structure. As well as the teaching and learning collaborative benefits, there will also be economies of scale benefits from working with Pioneer.

Framfield will be moving from 3 classes to a **4 class structure from September 2025. Reception, Year1-2 (Key Stage 1), Years 3-4 (Lower Key Stage 2) and Year 5-6 (Upper Key Stage 2).**

This 4 class structure mirrors the other 7 Pioneer school structure and will mean that Framfield can work collaboratively with the other Pioneer schools, therefore benefitting fully from the Pioneer shared planning and resources. This will significantly reduce the workload for the staff at Framfield and will impact on standards of education and outcomes for all the pupils at Framfield.

Miss Sophie Deane will be the **Reception class teacher** at Framfield from September 2025. Sophie is an experienced early years teacher and will bring a wealth of expertise and enthusiasm to the role. She is very much looking forward to meeting the new intake in the arranged meet the teacher session planned this term.



Mr Daniel Mackarness will be the **Year 3-4 class teacher and the Senior Teacher** for Framfield, supporting Mrs Riley in the development of the curriculum. Dan is a very experienced teacher and has worked at Pioneer in the past.



Mrs Becca Bastin will be the **Year 5-6 class teacher** at Framfield from September 2025. She has taught at all Pioneer schools in the past and has also been a Pioneer Head of School. She is a very experienced Upper Key Stage 2 teacher.



Miss Millie Hodge will be the **Year 1-2 (KS1) teacher** for September 2025. She has experience of teaching both KS2 and KS1 and really enjoys delivering exciting and stimulating lessons in KS1 and ensuring children make leaps of progress in their learning. Millie is very much looking forward to getting to know all KS1 pupils at Framfield.



Mrs Ruth Ridley will be the **Framfield SENCO** from September 2025. Ruth is a very experienced SENCO (SENCO at Groombridge Primary –Pioneer School) and is a Local Authority Lead SENCO Advisor. Ruth will be working closely with Mrs Levy as part of the transition this term.



As part of the handover and transition meetings, Mrs Roberts and the incoming Pioneer team will look at the deployment of our support staff.

Mr Robert Sewell is a full time higher level teaching assistant. Mrs Debbie Coshall is a full time teaching assistant and Mrs Jo Fenton works four mornings a week. Miss Adriana Plows will continue to provide fixed term individual pupil support following a grant allocation. Our mid-day supervisory team will remain Mrs Jo Fenton (Tues-Fri) with Mrs Val Tungate and Mrs Tenille Beglan.

We plan to get to know the Framfield staff even more this term and look forward to getting to know you and the children at Framfield in September.

We will be visiting Framfield on **Thursday 19th June** and will be available to meet you and discuss the partnership in the James Room from 2pm. Please come and have tea/coffee with us if you are available.

There will be a moving up morning on 1st July when children will move to their new classes with their new teachers. Mrs Roberts and Mrs Riley will jointly lead the worship and know that the team are planning an exciting and memorable morning to support further the transition into September.

We are looking forward to working alongside the Framfield team and developing a strong collaboration. We will be sending out a newsletter termly to keep you up to date with partnership developments.

Yours sincerely,



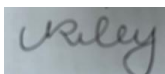
Mr James Procter
Executive Headteacher
Pioneer Federation



Mrs Kayleigh Vile
Chiddingly Headteacher
Pioneer Federation



Mr Alan Brundle
Chair of Governors
Pioneer Federation



Mrs Natalie Riley
Framfield Head of School
Pioneer Federation



Ms Caroline Powell
Groombridge Headteacher
Pioneer Federation



Mr Tim Murray
Chair of Governors
St Thomas à Becket Federation