



THE CONSORTIUM
ACADEMY TRUST

16 April 2026

Primary Parent Information



**THE
HESSLE
ACADEMY**

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Dear Parents/Carers

We are writing to inform you that Mrs Shiels has left her role as Headteacher at Penshurst Primary School.

Mrs Shiels joined Penshurst in September 2025, to support the school at an important point in its journey. We thank Mrs Shiels for her time and commitment and wish her all the best in the future.

We want to reassure you that there will be no disruption to the day-to-day running of the school. Teaching, learning and pastoral support for pupils will continue as normal, and the school's priorities, routines and standards remain firmly in place.

The school continues to be well supported by its strong leadership team – Mrs Hornby, Miss Davies, Miss Loveridge, Miss Dinsdale and Mrs Petch – who are working closely together to ensure continuity and stability for the children.

During this period, the team will be supported by Mr Waterson, Trust Executive Director of Education. Mr Waterson is already in place, having supported the school during Mrs Shiels' recent short period of absence, and will continue to lead Penshurst until a permanent Headteacher is appointed. Mr Waterson brings nearly 20 years of headship experience, and many of you will already have spoken with him. He is very much looking forward to continuing his work with the children, staff and families of Penshurst.

Finally, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank the more than 150 parents and family members who attended the recent Maths Activity Morning. It was wonderful to see such strong engagement from our school community. Thank you to everyone who attended, and particular thanks to Miss Dinsdale for organising such a successful event.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school.

Yours faithfully
The Trust Education Team