Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are all well and taking care during these difficult times. It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Headteacher at Whickham School. It is a privilege to have been appointed and entrusted with the job of leading our wonderful school.

Many of you may already know me; I have worked at the school a number of years. I thoroughly enjoy working at Whickham and am determined to ensure the school continues to build upon its many strengths. We are a school that prides itself upon ensuring every child becomes the best they can be and we want to make sure this is the case for your child over the next five or seven years.

It is my responsibility to ensure your child is safe, enjoys their time at school and makes strong progress in achieving qualifications that will open the doors to whatever career path they decide upon in the future. I make no apology for stating that academic success is important and that we will support your child in achieving success, but Whickham School is also about much more than this. We want to work with parents and carers in ensuring each child develops the confidence and personal qualities that make them a good citizen and someone we are proud to know.

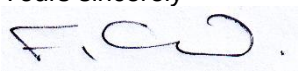
The transition process is important in ensuring your child is both ready to join us in September and feels confident and secure in their new school. The process has clearly changed because of the COVID-19 situation and we will be doing things remotely and via our school website.

Date	**Communication with Pupils**
20/05/20	The Year 6 area of the website will be set up and pupils will be introduced to their new Pastoral Leader, Miss Herrington. The Contact form will be available for parents and children to contact Miss Herrington and ask any questions that they may have.
10/6/20	Parents will receive a letter with information regarding tutor groups and a welcome from their child's new tutor.
15/06/20	Year 6 children will be given access to Whickham School Google Classrooms to enable transition activities and **#becomeconnected** activities. A Parent / Pupil transition booklet will be posted out to all families and added to the website. This booklet will contain lots of information about uniform, buses, lessons and extra curricular activities.
29/6/20	Transition lessons and **#becomeconnected** activities set for Y6 pupils via the Year 6 area of the website.

I have written a letter to your child to introduce myself as their new Headteacher. I will also be sending them a video that will answer some of their questions about next year and excite them about opportunities that they will have. Please read my letter with them and support them in returning this by Friday 5th June to transition@whickhamschool.org or posting the letter to school.

I look forward to meeting you during the next year and, in partnership, ensuring your child experiences a wonderful education at Whickham School.

Yours sincerely



Mr Turnbull
Headteacher Designate