



ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, FCCT, B.Ed(Hons), M.Ed, NPQH, NPQEL



19 November 2025

Dear Families,

Ref: Interim Operational Arrangements

I am writing to update you on some temporary operational changes taking place in school.

As you may be aware, we are in the midst of the autumn/winter bugs season and that, combined with other reasons, has resulted in the school experiencing significant staff shortages on most days. One of those reasons is the continued educational recruitment crisis, which has meant that we have struggled to fill vacancies during and since the summer holidays.

To ensure the safety and high-quality educational provision and support for all students, our leadership team has been working extremely hard to put robust interim operational measures in place.

As part of this, some students may be temporarily taught in alternative classes, and some permanent staff have been redeployed to ensure that expertise and experience are shared where most needed. We are also using a number of agency staff who are covering all vacancies, and we are using those colleagues in a more targeted and manageable way to maintain consistency for our students.

These adjustments are **temporary** and will remain in place only for as long as the current staffing challenges continue this term.

If you need to contact us regarding urgent matters, concerns or day-to-day queries, please use the operational leaders for each department:

- **Primary Department** – Mrs Laura Cartwright primary@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
- **Secondary Department** – Mr Ryan Mason secondary@abbotsleaschool.co.uk
- **Flexible Provision** – Moss Claire Welch therapies@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

For any safeguarding matters, please contact:

- **Safeguarding Manager** – Miss Sharpe safeguarding@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

We appreciate your understanding, patience and support while we work through these exceptional circumstances. Our priority remains the safety, learning and wellbeing of all students.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Hildrey
Headteacher