

WELCOME!

BALCOMBE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

In all that we do we are guided by God



FORMAT OF THIS SESSION

- Welcome from Ben Turney
- What is an Executive Headteacher?
- Leadership structure at Balcombe CofE Primary School
- Priorities for the year ahead (School Development Plan)
- Q&A session

HELLO!

Ben Turney

Facts about me:

Wife: Laura

Son: Harrison, 11 years old

Daughter: Abigail, 8 years old

Hobby: rugby (coach and play at
HHRFC)



LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Teaching for 22 years
- Headteacher for 11 years- Turners Hill CofE Primary School



EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND APPROACH

With over 20 years in primary education, I am deeply committed to creating inclusive, nurturing environments built on high expectations and strong relationships. I believe that children must be at the heart of every decision, and that effective communication and collaboration with all stakeholders are essential to a school's success.

My leadership is grounded in a growth mind-set, encouraging ambition and continuous improvement. I value openness, honesty, and visibility.

Guided by the principle of “evolution, not revolution”, we will build on the many existing strengths and lead thoughtful, sustainable change.

WHAT IS AN EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER?

An **Executive Headteacher** is someone who oversees more than one school. They are responsible for the **strategic leadership** and **overall performance** of the schools they lead.

How is this different from a regular Headteacher?

- A **Headteacher** usually leads one school.
- An **Executive Headteacher** works across more than one school schools, focusing on:
 - Setting the vision and direction for all schools
 - Supporting and guiding school leaders
 - Ensuring high standards of teaching, learning and pupil outcomes across all schools

What does this mean for Balcombe?

- Balcombe still has a Headteacher - while my time is split between two schools, I am a full-time employee of the HET and available to support both school.
- As Executive Headteacher, my focus is to make sure the school is well-supported, improving and part of a strong network.
- I am supported in this by a Senior leadership Team in each school. These teams ensure the strategic and operational needs of each school are met.

BENEFITS OF EXECUTIVE HEADSHIP

Strong Leadership

- Experienced leadership across multiple schools helps raise standards and share best practices.

Improved Teaching Quality

- Teachers benefit from shared training and support, leading to better classroom experiences for children.

Use of Resources

- Schools can share staff, facilities, and budgets more efficiently, which can improve learning opportunities.

Focused School Improvement

- Executive Headteachers can identify what works well and what needs improvement across schools, leading to faster progress.

Support for School Leaders

- Senior leaders get mentoring and guidance, helping them lead more effectively.

OUR LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE

Senior Leadership Team	
Executive Headteacher	
Mr Ben Turney	
Deputy Headteacher Mr Anthony Evans	Deputy Headteacher Miss Liz Bendall
Wider Leadership	
Mrs Lara Power School Business Manager	Mrs Bev Hoddell Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN



School Improvement Plan



Summary 2025/2026

To improve outcomes in maths so that pupils are better able to manipulate numbers effectively, leading to increased ability to solve mathematical problems

To continue to improve outcomes in English, with specific foci on spelling/punctuation and reading engagement

To ensure monitoring of the Quality of Education is consistent and leads to targeted developmental feedback

Review the structure and organisation of the curriculum, leading to the effective implementation of all curriculum areas

Review and adapt the current Leadership structure

To improve pupil engagement and ambition

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LOOKING AHEAD

We are excited about the future. Together, we can help every child shine!

