

Options Autism



23rd November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Nicola Harper as the new Head of School. Nicola will be joining us from our sister school, Underley Gardens School in Kirkby Lonsdale, where she has been an integral part of the leadership team.

Nicola has been with the company since 2011 and brings with her a wealth of experience, deep expertise in supporting children and young people, and a strong commitment to creating an inclusive, nurturing, and ambitious learning environment for all pupils. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated exceptional leadership, a passion for high-quality education, and a clear understanding of the needs of our school communities.

We are confident that Nicola's knowledge, energy, and vision will have a positive impact on our school, and we look forward to welcoming her as she begins this new chapter with us.

Nicola will be spending time over the coming weeks getting to know our pupils, staff, and families, and she is very much looking forward to meeting you all.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Helen Rigby

Mrs Helen Rigby **Executive Head Teacher** Oakfield House School and Waterloo Lodge School