

Let me introduce myself ...



Known by the children as Mrs B, I am Deputy Head at both St Martin's and St Anne's with a responsibility for Teaching and Learning across the two schools. Being deeply committed to the Catholic faith, I am passionate about upholding and promoting the ethos of its schools – the outward signs and experiences of the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church in the totality of daily school life. I relish my job (the best in the world) and this year hope to work increasingly alongside you in love and service to make sure that the precious identity of every one of your children - as made in the image and likeness of God - is

recognised and that every child strives always to do his/her very best in every aspect of living, loving and learning.

To give you some background about me ... I have trodden a number of paths, before settling into primary education. Having completed a BA in History at King's College, London, I journeyed to the spires of Oxford where, for a few years, I undertook further studies in Medieval Italian History and taught both at secondary and university levels. However, the lure of London and travel was strong and, within a short time, I found myself jet-setting around the world as a Senior Analyst for an American law firm. Working as an historian and having taken a number of legal qualifications, I spent some years supporting professors and their researchers around the globe to build up libraries of research on health-related topics and writing court submissions. However, love was to intervene! In the midst of the glamour (occasional) and suitcases (often), I happened upon and married a wonderful Swedish gentleman and had two amazing children – Megan and Gemma. Finding myself fully engaged in painting murals and perfecting the art of the chocolate krispie cake (how to avoid the butter congealing), I took some years at home and, when the prospect of returning to work loomed, decided it was time for a change. Opting to work initially as a TA at a boys' independent school, I soon found myself teaching and, within a few years, was Head of English, Latin, RE, History and French. During this time, I taught every year group from Reception to Year 8 ... Thus it was that seven years passed with great speed (and a growing interest in cup-cakes as opposed to krispie cakes)! I began my adventure with our two Caversham schools at St Anne's some five years ago as a Year 6 teacher and Literacy Coordinator. Over the years, I moved on to the position of Assistant Head and have worked closely with Mrs Buller for the last three years. In September 2016, I took up my position as Deputy Head of St Martin's and St Anne's and from last year worked with the staff of the two schools – in Federation - planning and building an engaging and challenging Curriculum. As a society, we spend much time looking at how to improve the quality of education in our schools. How do we make our children more motivated? How do we get children to 'own' their education? The most obvious answers are the delivery of a curriculum that engages and inspiring teachers who have an outstanding skill-set, the deepest of knowledge and enthusiasm beyond compare! It is my job to work alongside our fantastic teachers to design this exciting and challenging curriculum and to identify and deliver any training required.

My week is as follows:

St Martin's – Monday afternoons, Tuesdays (all day) and Wednesdays (all day)

St Anne's – Monday mornings, Thursdays (all day) and Fridays (all day)

I will however pop into both schools at some point every day. Please do leave a message with the office or email if you would like to contact me.

Without question, you are the most important person/people in your child's life I am really looking forward to working with you this year on your child's learning.