

# Willow Dene School

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**Head Teacher:**

Rachel Harrison

**Deputy Head Teachers:**

Claire Barnes, Claire Bayfield, Emma Bennett and  
Katie Dooley



20<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Willow Dene Parents

Sadly, at the end of term, we will be saying goodbye to our Sensory Processing Lead Mandy Baines. Mandy has been a valued member of staff at Willow Dene for many years, first as a senior teaching assistant and then in the role that many of you know her in, as our Sensory Processing Lead supporting our children who have sensory regulation needs.

Mandy was our first Sensory Processing Lead, a role which we believe is unique to Willow Dene. Over the years her role has grown and her knowledge and experience have benefitted children, staff and families.

Our loss is someone else's gain, as Mandy will now be working with a team of therapists, spreading her sensory expertise beyond Willow Dene. She is leaving us with so many memories over the years of children who have benefitted from her involvement and a role which is tailor made for Willow Dene and ready for someone else to lead. We are sending her on her way with lots of love and thanks and hope that she will stay in touch.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Joleigh Case, our new Sensory Processing Lead. Joleigh is an experienced member of school staff who has been working alongside Mandy this half term as Mandy prepares to leave so that there will be a seamless transition between the two. Shelly Arnott, the other member of our Sensory Processing team will continue in her role. You will be able to meet Joleigh and Mandy and tomorrow's coffee morning.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Harrison  
Head Teacher