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### Challenged to Contribute

Dear All

As you know, at St Mary's we pride ourselves on 'living' our values of Confidently Me, Belonging Together and Challenged to Contribute. I believe they help us all – children and adults alike – to shape the way we behave and the choices that we make, enabling us to flourish individually and collectively. Speaking from a personal perspective, they underpin the moral purpose I feel in the service I am trusted to provide for our community – and I mean 'community' in the largest sense, not just within our school gates.

Limpsfield school, our neighbour and part of our Diocesan Church School family, are in need of strong and stable leadership. Any school, however wonderful the children, however brilliant the staff, and however supportive the parents (and I believe all these things to be true of Limpsfield) needs leadership in order to ensure that the children flourish.

I am writing to let you know that, in addition to leading St Mary's, I have been 'Challenged to Contribute' the leadership they need (starting after half-term and continuing throughout the 2023-24 academic year) and that, after careful consideration, this is a challenge I have accepted. There is no conspiracy here, there are no ulterior motives – simply a school that needs leadership, that we have been asked to provide.

I am fully confident that I have the capacity and the capability to make this working partnership a success for both schools - so long as I am given the right support – because I will not be doing this alone. We are all being 'Challenged to Contribute'. I also genuinely believe that St Mary's will be enriched through this collaboration.

I am asking you all to contribute your trust and your support as our school communities take this step. I ask you to tell each other, and the children, that 'it will be fine' – because it will be. We 'Belong Together' and that will not change. Learning and the learner will remain at the heart of everything we do. I remain, as ever, humbled by your support, and grateful to have the opportunity to be working with you all and ask that you hold me in your thoughts and prayers as we begin this next phase of our journey together.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Lewis

Confidently Me    Belonging Together    Challenged to Contribute



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

