



WESTHOLME SCHOOL

Name and qualifications	Judith Dixon BA(hons) QTS Educational and Professional (Primary) Studies with English, Language and Literature, Practice of Teaching
Year joined Westholme	September 2002
Education	St Edmund Arrowsmith RC High School, Blackburn St Mary's RC Sixth Form College, Blackburn Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Ormskirk
Brief career history	After qualifying as a teacher in 1997 I started my teaching career at St Pauls' RC Primary School, Feniscowles where I taught in the Reception class for 5 years. I moved to Westholme in September 2002 and taught in the Reception class here until I left full time teaching in July 2005 to marry and start my own family. I continued to work at Westholme in a part time capacity as well as undertaking some supply work in various schools within Lancashire and Blackburn with Darwen. I gradually increased my hours back to full time at Westholme in September 2012. I have been lucky enough to work closely with all of the teachers at Westholme Infants and have enjoyed teaching in all of the year groups here. In September 2012 I was appointed full time Year 1 teacher and became Deputy Head of Westholme Infant School and Early Years Leader in September 2014. I am thrilled to be part of the leadership team leading the Nursery and Infant school and work very closely with Mrs Barnett to ensure a seamless transition throughout all of the primary phase.
What attracted you to Westholme?	Growing up locally, I already knew about Westholme's superb reputation and when the opportunity arose for me to apply for a teaching post here I jumped at the chance! From my very first visit to the school I was made to feel welcome. The staff are incredibly hard working, supportive, have high expectations of themselves and the children and are passionate about what they do. I really wouldn't want to work anywhere else!
Brief description of role in School	In my role as Early Years Leader I lead and manage all aspects of the Early Years department. I work closely with Mrs Church, Nursery Manager, to ensure that the youngest of our children are supported and catered for as they begin their Westholme journey. In my role as Deputy Head I support Mrs Barnett to lead and manage the Infant school and I also coordinate the provision of SEN throughout the Early Years and Key Stage 1, liaising with external agencies and regularly reviewing children's progress. I feel privileged to be part of such a strong and dedicated staff team, as well as work with such wonderful boys and girls who make me smile every single day! I lead the 'Superstars' team on a daily basis and teach phonics and maths to our preschool children who attend 'Superstars'. I teach LAMDA across Year 1 and 2 and prepare the children for their annual 'Poetry Speaking' examinations as well as for competition work in local festivals. This year I am thrilled to also be working with the Year 5 boys and girls at Junior School, teaching RE. As the Infant School mathematics coordinator I oversee the teaching and learning of mathematics from Nursery to Year 2 and work closely with the Junior School mathematics coordinator to ensure continuity of learning throughout the primary phase.