

# Cheapside CofE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Kate Searle



Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

After 20 amazing years as headteacher, Mrs Searle has decided to retire at the end of this term from Cheapside School. During her tenure here at Cheapside, she led us through three fantastic Ofsted inspections, multiple building improvements and the creation of our super forest school area. She has been at the centre of the school for two decades and has always kept the children at the heart of Cheapside: championing their needs and being their voice.

Mrs Searle feels now is the right time to step back and spend more time with her own children as they approach GCSEs. She has guided and taught so many through her 20 years - the children who joined Cheapside the same year as Mrs Searle have now left university and many will have children of their own! Quite a legacy.

We will be celebrating Mrs Searle's time at Cheapside over the rest of this term with lots of opportunities for the children, staff, governors, parents and carers to say thank you and goodbye.

I know that many of us will receive this news with a heavy heart, please be assured that all of the governors will work hard to make sure Cheapside remains the school you all know and love.

I am delighted to announce that governors have appointed an experienced interim head who will start in September. Mrs Jo Butler will lead the school as we seek to appoint a new headteacher in due course. Jo looks forward to meeting you all and the children in the coming months, she has already met with Mrs Searle and they will be spending time together having a handover in the summer. I am sure you will all give her a wonderful Cheapside welcome.

If you have any questions please feel free to email me on my school email:

[a.robinson@cheapsideschool.org.uk](mailto:a.robinson@cheapsideschool.org.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Amelia Robinson**  
Chair of Governors