

ANNOUNCEMENT



NEW HEADTEACHER AT SHERBORNE SENIOR SCHOOL

The Chairman of the Board of Governors and the Principal are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Mary Robertson-Barnett as Headteacher of Sherborne Senior School. Mary will take over the role from Mr Stephen Spicer when he leaves Sherborne at the end of this academic year. Mary was educated at Oxford University and is a senior school specialist in English and Drama, teaching up to A Level

Mary was the founding Headteacher of Sherborne Qatar Junior School in August 2022. In this short period of time, her leadership, personality, influence and relationship-building skills have been more than evident. Her vision and experience in leading an all-through school in the United Kingdom empowers her with a compelling and resilient foundation to accomplish the goals of the Sherborne Qatar family of schools. Mary will now lead the Junior and Senior School with the support of the dedicated and experienced leadership teams. The benefit of two sites allows us to create an all-through school with age-appropriate facilities.

We believe her presence will ensure that parents and pupils make a smooth transition from Junior School to Senior School. Mary will work closely with Stephen and the leadership team over the next 2 terms to ensure the high quality of education established during Stephen's 7-year tenure is maintained.



Mary Robertson-Barnett
Headteacher

Message from Mary



About Mary

Mary has shaped a career defined by its diversity. She has been at the forefront of curriculum innovation in both state and independent education in the UK for over 18 years.

Prior to joining the Sherborne Qatar family of schools Mary led an all-through inclusive and non-selective UK day and boarding school to being ranked second in the UK for its A Level and equivalent results.

At her last school Mary successfully delivered on a visionary strategy, crafting and articulating programmes ensuring the seamless transition from Junior to Senior School where pupils developed as creative, independent learners with the foundation to proceed confidently in life. Her leadership led to the redefining of the academic programme to promote aspiration with a focus on integrated, holistic learning providing opportunities for all to excel. Starting with the redesigning of the Junior School curriculum to provide a programme for development based on values-led education and contextualised learning, she successfully led her school to be a destination of choice. Pupils from the school achieved their aspirational futures, gaining places at Oxbridge and Russell Group universities year on year.

Mary joined the Sherborne Qatar family of schools as the Founding Headmistress of the Sherborne Qatar Junior School. Her creative approach encourages young pupils to learn through play and the exploration of their environment. With her passion for teaching English and Drama, she firmly believes that Performing Arts and Sports represent an unparalleled opportunity for holistic development.

Mary is very experienced teaching English from Year 5 to GCSE & A Level. She is also proficient in French and German. As Head of Drama in her earlier career roles, she transformed major performing arts centres by introducing Drama master classes and dance into the curriculum teaching Drama to pupils from ages 7 to 18.

Please join us in welcoming Mary as she embarks on this exciting journey.