

## Mrs Karen Winterburn



I have been Headteacher at Stanton now for 10 years and it is a real privilege.

When I am not at school I am busy spending time with my family – taxi runs, tennis, dog walks and time whenever I can by the sea.

## Education

I trained at Edge Hill (a long time ago now) starting my teaching career in Manchester before moving down to Wiltshire. My subject specialisms have been numerous, but PE is a passion and I champion this for our children in and out of school. I am a Headteacher Ambassador for the Youth Sports Trust, where I hope I can support and be an advocate for sport and PE for children not only at Stanton but beyond our school.

## Why I became a teacher

That is a tricky one. From a very early age I always wanted to be a physiotherapist. I used to be a competitive gymnast and spent many an hour with the physio ‘fixing me up’ following injury. I even went down the work experience route securing my placement at the local hospital!

But something happened at secondary school that made me reflect on my school experiences – teachers and staff who made the difference and motivated me, and those who didn’t. It was then that I decided, I wanted to be part of a profession who could motivate, nurture and make a positive difference in children’s lives and learning.

## My role at Stanton

Very recently I have become the Executive Headteacher for Stanton and Langley Fitzurse Primary Schools.

The reason for this is so that both small schools can thrive and so children can grow and learn in two very special places.

It does mean I split myself between the schools during the week, but there is never a day when I am not with the children. Children are definitely at the heart of the decisions made.

## Why I love teaching at Stanton

Stanton is a fantastic school. I knew that from the first day I came to visit. It is a little nugget tucked away. Even though we learn in different classes, I really feel passionate about the school being ‘as one’ – Together we are Stanton. We share the same values and ethos, we learn together yet recognise that we are all unique. The staff are incredible –they go the extra mile and by knowing the children the way they do, make learning so individual. Our learning environment is brilliant, not modern and whizzy but looked after and used to its fullest both inside and out. Our children are amazing too. That’s why I love teaching at Stanton!

