

Be. Build . Become

14th November 2023

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers,

The Full Governing Board met on 13th November 2023; at the meeting, the minutes of our meeting on 19th September 2023 were approved and are now available on the <u>Governors' page of the school</u> website along with useful information about governance at your school.

During the meeting, governors discussed the school's attendance figures and pupil punctuality; we were really pleased to see the significant improvements in this area especially given how closely it is linked to pupil outcomes. Governors were happy to hear about the range of after school clubs and the peripatetic music lessons now happening in school which all help to give our pupils a richness of experience as part of our school offering. It was also great to hear about the significant number of parents and carers who attended the recent Open Classrooms, as an opportunity to come and see their child's work and their learning environments.

At the Governing Board's request, Grace Hilson attended the Governing Board meeting to present on the work she has been leading on the Computing Curriculum as part of her middle lead role. It was great to hear about all the positive changes Grace has led which have increased the safety of our pupils online as well as using the technology to enrich our pupil's education. Grace responded well to the questions Governors asked and Governors could feel her passion and commitment and see the impact she has had along with other colleagues in this important area of our curriculum.

Governors discussed the progress this term against our School Development Plan, (priority objectives for this year) and were pleased to see the positive progress being made towards the school's goals. Governors also discussed the outcome of the recent Local Authority Health and Safety Audit, which was very positive with two minor actions, one of which was completed on the day of the audit and the second will be completed by the end of the month.

At our meeting Governors reviewed the recent Governor Skills Audit analysis which showed that we have a good range of skills and experiences on the Governing Board, the audit also enabled us to identify and focus on our key areas of development through recruiting governors with the skills and experiences

needed and governor continued professional development. We also discussed the Governor Monitoring Plan which has been set for this year which maps out all the in-school monitoring governors will undertake across key areas such as Leadership and Management, Teaching and Learning, Inclusion, Safeguarding, Health and Safety and Finance.

We received updates from the Safeguarding/Child Protection Governor on her recent safeguarding monitoring including to review the evidence for the statutory annual safeguarding audit — all of which was positive, and governors were assured that our Safeguarding practices are sound and our children our safe within school. As per the new Keeping Children Safe in Education guidance we appointed a lead Governor to partner with our safeguarding governor and our Headteacher to review our I.T filtering and monitoring procedures with our I.T company to ensure the statutory standards are being met.

I have recently conducted a review of all governance arrangements and documents in place and can confirm that we have all statutory and best practice governance elements in place meaning that governance is robust and effectively supporting and holding the school leadership team to account for the performance of the school and the experiences and outcomes of our pupils.

Governors would like to give thanks for the hard work and commitment of our colleagues and volunteers in school who are working incredibly hard to deliver the best possible education and experiences for our pupils.

As a reminder if you are a parent/carer and have any concerns or things you would like to discuss then you should speak to your child's class teacher. If you wish to make a formal complaint, then you should do so in accordance with our **Complaints Procedure**. If you are a staff member and have a concern or a complaint, then you should discuss this with a member of the SLT.

We know that it takes a whole community to raise a child and so your continued support and engagement is key to achieving success for the children. As the school community, we all have a common goal to ensure our school is the very best it can be, that our children are happy, love school, thrive and leave our school as well-rounded individuals ready to face the challenges ahead. As such we must be role models for the children and every day through our actions and behaviours live up to our school Christian values.

If you would like to know more about governance at your school or would like to contact me, please email me on: chair@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Best wishes,

Kevin Moyes Chair of Governors