

Chelmondiston C of E Primary School

Governor Update Autumn 2021



Local Governing Body responsibilities

- Making sure the school has a clear vision, strong ethos and a development plan
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the educational performance of the school
- Ensuring that the school finances are managed correctly and the money is well spent

Dear Parents

This term we are pleased to welcome Matt Harding to the Governing Body as a Parent Governor, alongside Ben Donald. Parent governors have an important role in governor discussions by ensuring that parent perspectives are voiced. Matt will also bring to the Governing Body important expertise in IT and project management.

Governors

Chris Deacon - Chair
Ben Donald - Vice Chair
Maureen Garratt-Simpson
Jenny Hawkes
Dilly Ridge
Lil McCoy
Helen McGlynn
Matt Harding
Mrs Tracy Whayman, Business Manager, associate Governor

What have governors been doing last term?

We have continued to hold our meetings online and have found that the administrative oversight tasks can be dealt with very efficiently this way. During the meetings we have made sure that Mrs Etchingham has been given plenty of time to explain school developments and any changes in processes and procedures, and we are grateful to her for the care that she took when answering our questions. Through this remote access process, we are being kept informed about the strategies in place to achieve ongoing school improvement.

Governors were involved during the recent Ofsted inspection. We were impressed by the way the staff responded to the additional challenge and, after meeting with the inspector, felt that the school's strengths and progress had been recognised and documented in the report. We are aware also that the School Improvement Officer of the MAT was present in school for the two inspection days and provided helpful support. Thanks to all parents who completed the Ofsted survey – we were delighted to read so many positive comments.

In our limited school visits last term, we focussed on the Christian and spiritual ethos and practice of the school. Our Foundation Governor, Dilly Ridge, joined the school for an assembly and the Christmas Service at St Andrews. Dilly and I also attended the school on the Spirituality Day and were very impressed with the capacity of all pupils to think and vocalise their thoughts on the beauty and value of things. The atmosphere created by the staff enabled the pupils to stop and consider what was important to them and others – all views were listened to and respected.

Thank you for your continuing support of the school.

Chris Deacon, Chair of Governors.