

## **St Michael's CE Primary School**

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Cultivating Respect, Persevering, and Learning with Courage

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Dear Members of the School Community,

I hope you and your families are all well during this unique and challenging time.

I appreciate that you have not formally heard from the school for some time, but we are keen to resume regular updates because you have such an important part to play in our success.

Some of you may know that I was recently appointed to the Governing Board and subsequently appointed as the Chair of Governors – a position of which I am very proud to hold given the unique and special nature of St Michael's C.E Primary school. We have the most engaged and committed school community I have ever met and a history of which to be proud: we have been educating the children of the parish since 1863!

The Governing Board recently implemented governance without committees which means that all governors now meet 10 times per year instead of the usual 6, and each governor takes a lead role in a specialist area. We met for a Full Governing Board (FGB) meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2020 and approved the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020; These minutes can now be accessed on the governor webpage (on the school website) along with governor photos and biographies, previous minutes, governor communications and all key governor documents, which you may like to review to learn more about your governors and the work we are doing for the children.

You may be aware that Mr Atkins resigned as Headteacher and left us in April 2020. We are currently in the process of recruiting his replacement and aim to have his successor in post by 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. We have however, been very fortunate to have Mr Mottram and the school leadership team with us who, along with the experienced staff team, have enabled the school to move forward and drive rapid school improvement.

At the last FGB meeting, we discussed Covid-19 and the school's plans to partially reopen (as has subsequently happened for some year groups). Governors were very happy with the rigour, care, thought and consideration, which had gone into these plans and the absolute focus on the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff. Governors were keen to thank Mr Mottram and his team for their hard work and commitment to ensuring this could happen in the safest way. We know it takes a whole community to raise a child and so your continued support is critical in ensuring that St Michael's C.E Primary School continues to thrive. As a community, we all have a common goal to **ensure our school is the very best it came be**, **that our children are happy**, **love school**, **thrive and leave our school as well rounded individuals ready to face the challenges ahead**.

As governors, every decision and action we take is driven by the fundamental question **"what is best for the children?** We are also guided by our school values of **Respect**, **Perseverance and Courage**, which as roles models for the children we must all live up to and hold each other to account against.

As we approach the end of this academic year governors are planning how we will engage more actively with you all from September onwards - more information will follow on this in due course.

If you have any questions about governance, or any other questions or comments then please do contact me directly: <u>kmoyes3241@st-michaels-pri.oxon.sch.uk</u>

Best wishes,

Kevin Moyes Chair of Governors