



Chair of Governors
Hurst Green CE Primary School & Nursery
London Road, Hurst Green, E. Sussex
TN19 7PN. Tel: 01580 860375

“Living Loving and Learning with God”

17th July 2023

News from the Local Governing Board

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearing the end of this academic year and the governors would like to thank you for supporting the school throughout this year. We hope you all have a lovely summer break when the time comes and your children return safely in September ready for another year of learning.

Since our last letter in January, the Governors have visited the school on several occasions and spoken to staff, pupils and parents in order to find out how you think the school is doing. We have taken account of the outcomes of safeguarding, health and safety, SEND and other audits to ensure your children are safe and support is maximised.

We have also reviewed the following:

Attendance

Governors are concerned about attendance. We know there have been high levels of sickness following the periods of lockdown due to Covid but it is so important that children are in school in order to learn. The headteacher tells us that there are some children who are not achieving their full potential due to poor attendance. If your child has missed unnecessary days of learning this year, please can we urge you to send your children into school every day next academic year.

Safeguarding

In Term 5, we spoke to children about safeguarding and are pleased to report that they feel safe in school. Our Safeguarding Lead Governor checks Safeguarding procedures in the school 3 times a year and has not raised any areas of concern.

Vision and Values

As part of the school's vision and values, we educate your children to be good, caring citizens and we try to ensure all their talents are acknowledged and developed, not only their academic abilities. The school offers a variety of extra-curricular opportunities and the school is actively trying to source more, including sports clubs. This is something we will review again next year.

Curriculum changes

This year the school has updated its curriculum offers in Art, DT and Music. We hope your children have been enjoying the benefits these changes have provided. As governors we have been reviewing these changes to ensure they are having an impact.

Staff Training

The teachers and TA's have received a continuous stream of professional development this year. One of the key areas of development has been in Mathematics and governors have observed lessons and spoken to staff and children to assess the impact this is having. I'm sure your children



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will be able to tell you they are playing more mathematical games and doing more problem solving. Changes will continue to be embedded throughout next year.

Finance

Just as you are finding it hard to make your money stretch in the current economic climate, so too is the school. Utility bills have gone up and staff salaries have also increased but our funding has not changed. Governors are looking at all possibilities to ensure we can keep the books balanced but still ensure we offer the best education for your children. One way you can help is to recommend the school to other parents. We have some vacancies in some year groups, especially in next year's Year 1. If we can fill those, we can increase our funding!

Next academic year, we hope to see you at parents' evenings in the Autumn and Spring Terms, to find out what you think and answer any questions you have. In the meantime, if there is anything you want to know, you can always email me.

Yours faithfully,

Elaine Lambert
Chair of Governors
For and on behalf of the Local Governing Board

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