



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”*

13<sup>th</sup> October 2022

### **News from your Local Governing Board**

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### **Welcome**

Welcome back to the 2022/23 academic year. We hope all your children have settled well in their new classes. We would like to extend a very special welcome to all our new parents, with children in Nursery, Reception and throughout the rest of the school.

#### **Communication**

One of our aims as a Board this year is to improve our communication with you. Firstly, we want to know what you think about the school. To this end you might see us at school events or in the playground at home time. Otherwise, you can always contact me by email. Secondly, we would like to share with you what we have been doing, so we will write to you about this three times a year.

#### **Make a difference by becoming a Parent Governor**

Now we are part of the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust (DCAT), our constitution as a board has changed and we are required to have two parent governors. Louise Lacey is our current parent governor and after half term we will be asking for nominations for the second parent governor. Becoming a governor gives you the chance to use and enhance your own knowledge and skills and have an impact on pupils and staff, so please think about putting yourself forward for this role. You can find some general information about what the role entails at <https://www.nga.org.uk/Governance-Recruitment/Be-a-school-governor-or-trustee.aspx> Any parent or carer is eligible to apply, including those with children in the school nursery. We are particularly in need of people that have previous experience, or an interest in, safeguarding, SEN, and education, but everyone is welcome. The role may be of particular interest to parents of children in Nursery or in the lower school as the term of the post is 4 years (although there is nothing stopping you handing in your notice at any time!). **If you have any questions or want to find out more, please email me and/or talk to Miss Flack. Otherwise look out for the application form at the start of next term.**

#### **What did the Local Governing Board do last academic year?**

One of the key outcomes of our work was joining DCAT last year, which we did in January 2022 following many months of due diligence and consultation. The school has benefitted from better help and support in many areas as a result. There have been a number of new administrative systems for staff to learn but these will provide better knowledge and information once they are embedded.



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We also:

- Looked at how the school was spending its money, including ensuring ring fenced money was being spent appropriately.
- Reviewed safeguarding information. This is an important aspect of our role.
- Reviewed assessment outcomes throughout the year to monitor how well children were progressing.
- Reviewed the support being provided for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) children.
- Visited the school and talked to children and staff on several occasions, Covid rules allowing, to see for ourselves the improvements being made by staff, particularly with a focus on maths and English.

### Our focus for 2022/23

This coming year, we want to focus on stakeholder voice and on reviewing how well the school fulfills its Christian Vision and values and how well this enables the children and the staff to flourish. We will also be looking at planned improvements in Early Years Foundation Stage(EYFS) and assessment of the Foundation subjects, and at the provision of enrichment opportunities and the impact of subject leaders. This will be alongside our statutory responsibilities around finance, safeguarding and SEND.

Yours faithfully,

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

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