

Governor Update April 2020

Dear Parents,



Ashton-under-Hill First School's vision statement was recently refreshed by staff and governors to link with the school's intent of **'Shaping Bright Futures Together'**. It embodies the five characteristics and values we integrate into our daily routines, teaching and learning and as governors, we look to be evident in the behaviour and personal development and progress of all of our pupils.

It states: "We work in partnership with parents and the community to encourage curiosity and eagerness to learn, resilience, friendship and respect. We work together as a team within a caring environment to support every child to achieve their very best in order to shape bright futures for all".



This statement continues to be real and relevant to each of us under the current social distancing restrictions and education provision. We fully support all the staff as they strive to deliver this vision, work alongside our families and connect with and shield our community. **A massive thank you to all our key worker staff who dedicate their time to our wonderful school.** We have never been more proud to be school Governors at Ashton.

We also wish to add our welcome to two new members of staff: Mrs Brown, Office Manager and Mrs Ward, Finance Manager. It is certainly a difficult and testing time to join the school, but they bring a wealth of experience, knowledge and fresh eyes to our systems and organisation and are both friendly and enthusiastic to help staff and parents, even from home! Please help them get to know you & your children by saying hello and keeping your contact information up to date.

Governor business continues around strategy, accountability and finance. Our primary focus remains on safeguarding and ensuring the school is open and accessible to all remotely. Our immediate key task is setting the budget for the period to April 2021. This is challenging in normal circumstances, let alone in these uncertain times, however between us we have the leadership, financial acumen, accounting skills and clear processes in place.



Our Full Governing Body has successfully held a meeting via Microsoft Teams and we meet again just before the May half term to approve the budget and start thinking ahead to the new academic year. We also hope you find our occasional blogs found in the news or Governor page of the website, both interesting and informative.

With regards to the Parent Governor vacancy, we were grateful for the positive response to our approach for nominations and can only apologise we have not progressed matters. It is now our intention to rerun the election once we commence the next academic year. If an earlier opportunity arises, we will be in touch and certainly look forward to one or more parents joining our board very soon.

Thank you for your continued support of our school, embracing the unexpected opportunities the lockdown has afforded us, but most importantly thank you all for complying with government guidelines and all the sacrifices you are making during this period of time. We remain positive and look forward to the school being full again and hearing the children sing. Regards, The Governors.