



## Highwood Primary School

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Promoting Resilience, Achieving Potential

Cathy Cox – Head Teacher

Friday 19th July 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Firstly, I would like to introduce myself; I'm Mrs Jo Johnson and due to Mrs Anjali Carter stepping down to pursue a new role here at Highwood Primary School I took over as the Chair of Governors at Easter 2019. I hope to meet as many of you as possible at the school and Friends' events that are put on at Highwood.

As we draw towards the end of another academic year, the governors are proud of the experiences and enrichments to the curriculum that the children have taken part in this year. On Governors' Day, we were able to join them and see this first hand. Highlights included the Women's Football World Cup theme week where children learnt not just about the sport, but also about the individual countries taking part and the Year 6 Puppet Show, where the children not only performed the shows themselves but made all the puppets from scratch as well as building the stage and props.

There have been some changes to the Governing Body during the year; three long-standing governors completed their terms in September 2018, one of our governors sadly passed away in January and Anjali Carter stepped down as Chair. This has meant that we have been actively recruiting new governors and we are pleased to welcome Mrs Angela Goonetilleke (Parent Governor), Ms Lucy Edwards (Parent Governor), Mr Eddie Tunnah (Co-opted Governor), Mr Vikas Gaur (Co-opted Governor) and most recently, Mrs Katie Shapiro (Co-Opted Governor). With this newly strengthened team, we are looking forward to supporting Mrs Cox and the Senior Leadership Team at Highwood.

Over the year, the Governing Body has met regularly and worked alongside the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the school meets all of its statutory duties and delivers the targets on the School Improvement Plan. Individual Governors have taken on specific responsibilities and carried out work related to these roles. Mr Darren Freeman has continued his work as Chair of the Resources Committee and Data Protection Officer supporting the school with finance and premises decisions; Mr Liam Willimott has taken on the role of Chair of the Development Committee, supporting the school with decisions about the curriculum and our inclusive provision. Ms Lucy Edwards became our Health and Safety Governor and carried out



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the annual health and safety review. As well as being liaison governor for Early Years, Mrs Lisa Pratchett continued her work as our Safeguarding Governor and carried out the annual review of this aspect of the school's work. Mrs Angela Goonetilleke took on the role of SEND Governor and is now working alongside the Inclusion Team at Highwood. Mr Eddie Tunnah joined Mrs Lisa Pratchett and myself on the working party to choose the winners of this year's Della Allen Awards, as well as liaising with the Lower Key Stage Two team as Phase Support. Mr William Brooks has continued his work as Upper Key Stage Two phase support and has been part of the premises working party. Mrs Danni Harte has headed the Academy Working Party, who are looking into the options available to Highwood in the future, as well as providing the Governing Body with detailed information about developments in the curriculum at Highwood.

All the governors have attended at least three training sessions over the year and have visited the school during the school day.

I would like to thank the Senior Leadership Team, the Teachers and all the Support Staff for the dedication and hard work they put in to providing for the children of Highwood every day.

Thank you also to the Friends of Highwood; without their dedication, hard work and ideas we would not be able to provide all of the events and enrichments that create fantastic memories for the children.

Finally, we as Governors would like to wish all of Year 6 best wishes and good luck at their new schools; we know how strong you have all become and therefore will be able to handle this new chapter with confidence.

Have a wonderful summer holiday everyone and we look forward to seeing you all in the Autumn Term,

Kind Regards

Jo Johnson  
Chair of Governors