



# LANGSTONE ACADEMIES

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## Governor's Newsletter to Parents November 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

This has been another exciting year for both Langstone Junior and Langstone Infant Academy and I would like to thank Jane Bush and all the staff for their hard work, continued dedication and support to the children and their families. To improve efficiencies across the school we are now working as a single governing body across both schools. We shall continue to provide an effective and accountable mechanism for the pooling of resources including the sharing of our highly professional staff, teaching, assessment and monitoring of practice.



We must remember that both schools received glowing and highly successful inspections from OFSTED earlier in the year. It was a credit to all staff that they recognised so many positive things about our schools.

Many thanks to those governors who worked tirelessly and have now moved on – Steve Jones, Charlotte Hughes and Helen Williams.

### Work of the Governors:

The Board of Governors: The Governors have three overarching responsibilities:

- i) Setting the strategic direction of the school
- ii) Holding the school to account for its education performance
- iii) Ensuring the financial health and probity of the school, and making sure it delivers value for money.

We work closely with the University of Chichester Academy Trust and adhere to their Local Governing Body Responsibilities including Strategic Leadership, Community, Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity.

During the last six months we have met as a joint (both Infant and Junior schools) full governing body to discuss separate and joint aspects of our Schools. Senior leaders have been held to account for the educational, developmental and well-being needs of all our children. Governors have had the opportunity to visit the schools and have seen at first hand different groups of children in and out of the classrooms enjoying their learning and speaking enthusiastically about their school. Reports from school visits have continued to state how well our children behave off site.



## **School Curriculum:**

Within the curriculum we are committed to developing the whole child, both socially, emotionally, culturally, environmentally and academically. To achieve this the schools will be focussing on the Holistic Care Project. This aims to engage the children with mindfulness exercises but essentially learning more about their own mental health and providing them with the necessary skills to manage their own wellbeing.

Monitoring this year will focus on the curriculum as both schools are working hard to further develop progression documents to enable them to track the skills pupils require in order to make good progress in their learning. This will enable teachers to target any specific additional support pupils might need. In addition, joint staff/training and working sessions will enable teachers across both schools to collaborate, investigate and design appropriate schemes of work. Phonics and fluency in maths is another focus area and one that staff are working closely on. This is supported by the Trust along with the introduction of 'Little Wandle' – a designated phonics programme to engage and motivate pupils.

Research: Teachers and Teaching Assistants are to be congratulated on their dedication, through their research work on assessment and are actively experimenting with strategies to ensure that the methods they apply in class have a high impact. Teaching Assistants too have completed their research on 'Blended Learning' which will further support in class learning and progress. Well done.

## **Relationship and Sex Education:**

Two members of the Langstone staff reported to governors on the Infant and Junior Relationship and Sex Education Policies and explained what the children learn. In these policies relationships and friendships are explored and discussed. Please note that Ofsted were pleased with the way the curriculum has been adapted for the needs of the community. If you require more information, please refer to our website.

The Governors wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mrs. I Baldry  
Chair of Governors

For a full list of Governors please refer to the school website.