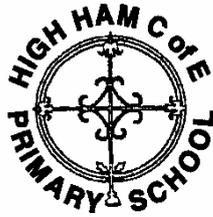


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Monday 2nd November 2020

Update from Chair of Governance Board

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you and your families are well and remain safe during these difficult times as we all do our best to meet the challenge of daily life during the pandemic conditions that prevail.

In line with previous updates provided in the past on the work of the Governance Board via the Weekly Bulletin, the opportunity to update you all will take place via Twitter from now on.

The first half of the autumn term has certainly been a challenge for everyone associated with our school with the return of all our children and ensuring all the necessary safeguards to protect everyone in our school are in place and meet expectations. My thanks to everyone for following the protocols in place and looking out for each other.

Two meetings have taken place during this period so far, in late September the Business Team met and a full Governance Board meeting took place in early October.

As always with Business Team meetings there is great emphasis on looking at the school budget and where expenditure is going to meet the needs of staffing, delivery of the curriculum and ensuring the school buildings and grounds are maintained and fit for purpose.

A great deal of discussion took place regarding the government's 'Catch up' funding allocation to schools. Governors fully acknowledged that the unprecedented circumstances all schools face at this time introduce significant additional pressures to staff and budgets and whilst any extra funding is greatly welcomed, it was important that ministers were encouraged to keep a watchful eye on outcomes over the coming months to ensure the funding made available was meeting the need. As a result of these discussions, a letter from me, on behalf of the board, was sent to David Warburton MP to echo the Governance Board's concerns that monitoring and review of the situation would take place.

Other matters discussed included, Covid-19 Risk Assessments, Data Protection matters (GDPR), SEND update and SIAMS.

The full Governance Board meeting covered such things as Chairs update, Headteachers Report, Clerks briefing, Diocese matters, Business Team update, On-line safety, Safeguarding and Health and Safety/Premises.

All meetings, of course, are being conducted virtually and I have to say they have worked extremely well. The Headteacher, Sally Roy (Vice-chair) and myself meet every Wednesday for a quick update session



and we have established a number of 'Microsoft Teams' folders to enable all board members the facility to access updates or any actions/responses required whenever they can.

I hope this update was useful.

Keep safe.

Kind Regards,

Chris Palmer
Chair of Governance Board

