

Governors Annual Statement

July 2024

We have had another busy and wonderful year at Old Park.

At the start of this academic year, we welcomed Mr Foster in his new role as headteacher and have supported him at the start of his Old Park journey. The Governing Body thank him for the work and commitment he has given during his first year at our school. Mr Foster would also like to pass on his thanks to the SLT and all the team for supporting him.

Governors have enjoyed spending time in school and supporting trips, it is lovely to see our children thrive and always represent our school with such high standards.

We continue to receive positive feedback from our Education Advisor and the Local Authority who have been supporting Mr Foster in his new role.

Following OFSTED recommendations last year, work has gone in to developing the curriculum road maps for our foundation subjects. We must thank Mr Foster and our subject leads for the hard work that has been put in to this. Subject leads have presented the curriculum plans to Governors and we have been delighted to see the flow and consistency across the board. The children have also discussed their work with us with confidence and enthusiasm.

Mr Parton has worked tirelessly in his new role as Assistant Head and has completed many projects to support our Early Years Department. We thank him for his personal commitment to his professional development to benefit the younger children of our school.

Work has gone in to the outdoor areas, specifically in Early Years and KS2, we are so pleased to see these areas being enjoyed.

A number of Governors attended the Old Park Operas recently, we were blown away by the collaborative work with the school and In Harmony, as always, our children showcased their work phenomenally. The work that goes in to these projects is not to be underestimated, it is so much more than just the music, the work the children put in during their literacy lessons to develop their own stories as well as the input they have with the music itself is fantastic. We thank Jeremy and the In harmony team for their commitment to our school and the creativity they bring and opportunities they give our children.

A group of Year 6 students performed at The Royal Albert Hall during the summer term, taking part in the Armonico Consort's AS Academy Does the Royal Albert Hall, a fantastic experience for all and another example of the opportunities Old Park gives to our children. The children had given up their lunchtimes to practise for the performance and the staff and parents who accompanied were so proud of the children, not only for the performance and their efforts but for the way they represented themselves and the school too.

This year, we have gained the School of Sanctuary accreditation which is an incredible tribute as to the welcoming, family feel we know and love about Old Park as well as the way our children are taught about acceptance, inclusion and those who may need to seek sanctuary. As a school, our children support their peers, our staff support our children and their families, this support goes way beyond teaching. We must thank Mrs Ashton for pulling the application together – a heart warming portfolio was produced which showcases so many wonderful aspects of our school.

We have received our KS1, KS2, SATs and EYFS results for the year and are proud of the children's achievements and attitude towards these assessments.

Children have also taken part in various sporting activities and events throughout the year, we have benefitted from the use of our all-weather pitch and appreciate the experiences on offer to us through Crossbar and thank our children for representing us so well.

The staff and children have been completing work regarding the school vision and values – this is an ongoing project so watch this space.

As always, our continued success wouldn't be possible without the Old Park family, from the leadership team, the teaching staff, TAs, the catering team, cleaning staff, the site manager, office staff and of course our children and their families/carers so THANK YOU all.

During this academic year Governors have been researching the possibility of joining a Multi-Academy Trust. We are now in the process of confirming a consultation period with the Learning Community Trust – more information about this exciting opportunity will follow in September.

We look forward to another academic year and supporting the future and successes of Old Park.