

## Governors Annual Statement to Parents 2023

“Only my best will do, be kind to one another”

“Whatever you do work at it with all your heart” Colossians 3:v23

### “A year of challenge and Reflection”

“What a year and we got through this together as a team. I firstly wish to applaud the hard work and commitment of the headteacher and teaching staff. There were challenges presented to them this year, especially with the closure of our local nursery and the outside classroom. This I know has been difficult at times for your children and for you as parents, however, the strength and commitment to teaching that has continually been displayed throughout the entire year is truly commendable and I want to thank you as parents for your continued patience and support during this time. We got through it together and that is what makes a strong community school like Huby an absolute pleasure to be a part of.”

### Our Team

Our team remains unchanged regarding its members apart from some positional changes. Kath Wood, who has been an absolute asset in her role as Vice Chair for over 6 years, has now stepped down. She will remain part of the Full Governing Body and has strengths she will continue to share, especially in Finance. Our newly elected Vice Chair is Rachel Comerford who is already a popular and established member of the team and has a depth of knowledge in special education needs and teaching. I am very much looking forward to collaborating with her in supporting the headteacher and school.

We have also welcomed a baby to our team Darcey Christmas who may attend future meetings. I would like to thank Heather also for her commitment during the last 12 months as she now takes time off on parental leave.

Michael Hartley who again has been a valued member of the team by sharing his professional experience and knowledge and is a voice for the staff at Huby School has been re-elected as staff governor.

Our special responsibilities as individual governors remain steadfast in supporting Child protection and Safeguarding, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Inclusion and SEND, Looked After Children and EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage). The governors who are responsible for these roles may change each year but are updated on our school website.

### Our vision and Ethos

Our vision and ethos are shared with the school and is embedded in everything we do.

The Full Governing body have met five times this year ensuring that the following strategic priorities are monitored and addressed:

- . To provide a child centered approach to safeguarding and promote the welfare of every child.
- . To provide excellent teaching and learning for all

- . **To provide a broad and balanced curriculum which is exciting and engaging to meet the needs of our children.**
- . **To provide visionary leadership and governance to facilitate school improvement.**

These priorities are now set for the next 3 years, and progress is discussed at each FGB meeting where evidence is gathered from our sub-committees and the governors with special responsibilities.

## **School Improvement**

This school year we have continued with our school monitoring visits to support our strategic and school priorities. Meetings have been held with subject leaders to monitor the strength and effectiveness of the curriculum across the school. The 'School Improvement Committee' has planned organized monitoring visits now throughout the year which encompasses talking to pupil's book scrutiny's and learning walks and this has been working well. This committee has met half termly to ensure that we are reviewing the needs of the curriculum and the children and ensuring closer links with our teaching staff.

Governors have been kept fully informed by pupil performance throughout the year and the data has been reviewed at FGB meetings. Governors have a particular focus on the progress of SEND and pupil premium children.

The SAT results have now been shared and will be discussed at our next FGB meeting in October as part of the Head teachers report. We are really pleased with these results as they reflect how hard all the children have worked and been supported by the teaching staff.

We have reviewed policies throughout the year, and these have been updated and placed on the school website. These will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure any changes are adopted and implemented accordingly.

## **Financial performance**

Our Finance committee set and have been monitoring the school budget throughout the year to ensure that sound financial management is upheld, and best value is maintained. We have found this challenging at times due to the inflationary costs of the school buildings and the pool. Our insurance claim for the outside classroom has been successful and we have received some financial support from North Yorkshire. We are still in a healthy position financially and our projections for the next 3 years will be closely monitored.

The introduction of Huby Herons has been monitored regularly and is working well.

The finance committee has been involved in the projections and costings for the new nursery which will commence from September. A business plan for its success was submitted to us and reviewed thoroughly and then put before the FGB. This will be closely monitored from September at each Finance meeting.

We have invested in supporting our children with special education needs, ensuring the teaching support and resources are there for each individual child. Again, this will continue to be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. As governors we also continue to review the funding of "Pupil Premium" and "Sports funding" ensuring that we review the impact of the expenditure on the children.

We continue to recognize the support that the PTA provide for the school in raising funds and thank them for all their hard work. This team of volunteers have such a positive impact on the school and are valued by the Governors and staff at Huby School.

## **A summary from the Chair**

We are immensely proud of what we have achieved this year. It has been a journey and one of learning especially from myself. Every day is certainly a school day being a Chair of Governors.

The outside classroom has been operational now since April and it has been great to see the children back in there and thriving. Huby herons has been an enormous success and the results from our parent survey illustrate this. The plans for our new Nursery provision are progressing and will commence in September. Our Year 6 children have grown into young adults and have been such role models for our younger children and I wish them every success as they spread their wings as they leave Huby school.

We have improvised, adapted, and overcome so much this year and this has been down to the whole school community and the support we have received. Thank you so much to my team for all their work and support and to the Headteacher and teaching staff for their resilience and tenacity. I say this every year, but I am so proud to be part of this school and the children that come here are an absolute delight. I watch their journeys through each year group and see how much they grow. Their thirst for learning, excitement and respectfulness is infectious. Seeing them smile every day is an absolute joy. You as parents play such a significant role in that and I want to thank you all for being part of this school.

Enjoy your summer break spending quality family time together and we will look forward to our continued journeys and new chapters in September.

**Karen Cahill**

Chair of Governors