



# GATEWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Lifelong love of learning**

Netheravon Close

Carterton

Oxfordshire

OX18 3SF

Telephone: (01993) 842189

Interim Headteacher: **Mrs Kayleigh Anstee**

Chair of Governors: **Mr Kevin Moyes**

19th March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers,

I hope you are all well and welcomed the return to school on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 for our children. I appreciate that for many of you there will have been mixed feelings, but it was great to hear that every child was back in school last week. Governors would like to thank the school team for their tremendous hard work and dedication to the children of our school in ensuring such an impactful and positive virtual learning experience for those who were learning from home. It has been lovely to read the positive feedback from parents and carers about this and see the level of appreciation from the school community.

The Full Governing Board met on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 for the March governors meeting and the minutes of the Full Governing Board Meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved and are now available on the [Governor Webpage](#) (along with other information about governance including governor pen portraits). At the meeting governors received an update from Mrs Anstee on the school re-opening including how the pupils and team were doing, plans for assessments and parent/carers pupil updates, we discussed recent governor monitoring including Premises, Health and Safety and Safeguarding, we reviewed the budgets (which are doing well) and discussed the process for setting the 3 -year budget at our April meeting. We also approved several key policies.

As per my previous communication, the Headteacher recruitment process is underway. Thank you for all your feedback on the qualities you would like from your headteacher – we fed these into the person specification and the candidate recruitment pack. The role closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021, the headteacher recruitment panel will shortlist on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and following reference collection, Interviews will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021. We will at this point, send a communication to you to confirm the outcome. I appreciate that this creates an element of uncertainty for you but please rest assured that governors will decide purely based on what is best for the children of our school.

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I would also like to remind you that this year the school priority areas governors are holding Mrs Anstee and her leadership team to account for are to:

- Improve the quality of leadership, management, and governance.
- Implement the new whole-school curriculum effectively.
- Improve the use of whole school assessment.

In addition, governors set the following objectives for themselves:

- Governance is impactful, robust and sustainable.
- The Full Governing Board contributes towards rapid school improvement.
- Governor Community Engagement is impactful
- School Promotion, Pupil Growth and Sustainability (in collaboration with the Headteacher)

We will feedback to you at the end of this year on the progress we have made with these.

I would also like to remind you that we still have 3 parent governor vacancies. It is important that we fill these vacancies because parents play such a key role in school governance and ensures that governance of the school is effective and sustainable. You can find further information [here](#). I appreciate that we all have additional challenges at the moment, but please do consider it. You will be fully supported in learning the role and we will ensure the time commitment is feasible for you. If you would like to discuss it then please do contact me and we can arrange a time to discuss.

If you have any questions about governance, or any questions or comments, then please do email me directly: **[kmoyes@gateway.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:kmoyes@gateway.oxon.sch.uk)**

Best wishes,



**Kevin Moyes**  
**Chair of Governors**