

ST ANNE'S GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 2021

Season's Greetings to all families of St Anne's Voluntary Academy.

We would like to thank all families for the support and commitment you have provided to the school during this first school term. It has continued to be a challenging time for schools, and we thank you for your continued support to our dedicated school leaders and staff. We know you must be disappointed, as we all are, that the ongoing pandemic has impacted our Christmas plans in school again. But the right decisions have been taken to keep everyone safe and well.

We just wanted to let you know what we have been doing during the Advent term to ensure strategic oversight of school.

Firstly, during the summer holidays, school leaders, including governors, developed a School Development Plan (SDP) to ensure that teaching and learning addresses the educational and social needs of all pupils at our school. This serves as the plan that governors use in our monitoring activities throughout the year to ensure school are consistently implementing what is written down in the plan and desired impacts are achieved.

At the beginning of September, governors joined staff for an Inset day where Mrs Wiggins delivered updated training on Keeping Children Safe in Education and Safeguarding. Overseeing Safeguarding in school is one of the most important functions that we undertake. It forms part of every activity within school and our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Wiggins takes this very seriously and implements it robustly. Governors know this because we undertake safeguarding audits every September and monitor any resulting action plans throughout the year. Also, each governor visit involves oversight of safeguarding. It is the responsibility of all adults within the school and is well understood by all. Governors have also managed to undertake some visits into school this term and were also able to take part in an on-site review by the CMAT senior leadership in October. We are pleased to say that they agree that St Anne's is a great school with engaged, well behaved pupils and committed staff.

There have been two Governor meetings this term where we have heard how school have been implementing the SDP. We also heard about the extracurricular activities planned for this year and those that have already taken place. We've undertaken other training such as 'Safer recruitment' and 'Wrap' training and have signed up for Diocesan run governor training sessions next term. We've attended two Trust Board run Governor symposiums which take place in the early evenings twice termly. The Trust Board share CMAT wide news and information and provide updates on governance roles and responsibilities.

THE PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who managed to take part in our recent parent survey. We would like to share some of the key highlights with you.

- 87% of respondents are confident that their child/children's safety and welfare is a priority in school.
- 92% said their child was happy most or all of the time in school.
- 79% were satisfied or very satisfied with the virtual learning offered.
- 77% were happy with communication from school.
- 68% would like an e-newsletter from governors.
- There were also many really positive comments about how well staff have looked after your children.

Governors are drawing up an action plan and will share this with you early next term. But in the meantime, this e-newsletter is an acknowledgement of one of your requests.

What next:

- We will continue to carry out our strategic management responsibilities, which, at the moment, look like they may return to virtual meetings for the immediate future and will return to in person visits as soon as we can.
- One of our parent governors has recently stepped down, so we will be seeking nominations for a new parent governor early next term, so if you are interested but would like to know more about what is involved please feel free to contact us, [Governor contact details](#)



We wish you and your families a Happy, Healthy and Holy Christmas..... Lorraine, Marion, Fr Gerry, Clare and Alison