



The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth Achieving Together for a Brighter Future

The purpose of the Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth is to educate children in an atmosphere of Christian love where all achieve the very best they can, now and throughout their lives

Headteacher Shalfleet and Yarmouth: Mrs Elizabeth Grainger BEd English (Hons)

A University of Chichester
ITT Partner School



October 2022

Dear parents and carers

It has been a little while since we have updated you on governance of the Federation. The end of last term came quickly in what was a turbulent year. The direct effects of Coronavirus lasted well into the spring term yet schools had attempted to move to a more 'normal' pattern of working from September. The disruption to children's learning over the last two years meant that the government decided not to publish school level results for the end of key stage tests in July. We are pleased however with what the children have achieved. Each had their own experiences during this unprecedented time. Yet every day they came to school, we were proud of their resilience and engagement with their learning. A joy for all to see. At this point we would also like to take the opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to children and parents/carers who have recently joined us, we are very happy you have done so.

Now, as we look to this new academic year and beyond, the best thing we can all do for our children is to ensure they attend school every day. Each day represents a huge opportunity for growth, personally, academically, socially and spiritually and our staff team relish the prospect of supporting each and every one of the children in their journey. Attendance matters! Thank you for your support.

The Community Plan is an established feature of our Federation. Its emphasis is on recognising all stakeholders and their individual contribution to our community and the success of our Federation. The latest plan can be found under the 'Community' tab on the website www.fosay.co.uk. We recognise the Federation community has undergone significant change in the past few years and, with the re-location of Yarmouth CE Primary School to Freshwater in the not too distant future, we have been engaging with all our stakeholders over the past year to review the Vision and Values for the Federation. Thank you to all those who have taken part in the discussion via returning questionnaires and engaging in conversations. We will revert back to you soon with further details.

As is our routine, we have reviewed the Federation Development Plan to ensure elements which require further attention remain a priority whilst incorporating other areas we look to develop. Our strategic objectives for the next three years have been set as follows:

- **Aspire:** Every child in our Federation has a fantastic education; All children receive the highest quality Teaching and Learning provision; All children receive the highest quality opportunities and life experiences.
- **Unify:** The future vision of our Federation is committed to and shared by all stakeholders.
- **Collaborate:** The Federation works collaboratively with all stakeholders, the wider community, other schools and external agencies to improve the curriculum offer and drive Federation improvement.
- **Include:** The provision meets the needs of all learners; Embed the 'Federation Welcome' to everyone entering our schools.
- **Stabilise:** The Federation continues to have a consistent, dedicated staff team, confident to drive improvement; Opportunities for future career development; A financially sustainable Federation.



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These five elements taken together, underpinned by detailed action plans, they drive forward our ambition to be outstanding schools.

We continue our 'Inspire Days' developed to teach the curriculum differently, and 'Inspire Talks' which are an early introduction for children to different career paths. School trips are focused around key areas of learning and provide children the opportunity to travel around and off the Island. A full 'events calendar' has been published to provide you with an overview of the activities in advance and support your planning. Similarly, Outdoor Learning is embedded as we are committed to developing the whole child; developing key skills, building relationships, nurturing resilience, inspire curiosity as well as a love of learning and the outdoors. The Junior Leadership Team and Learning Leaders have been selected again. Together with Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, Eco Warriors and the Spirit Group they provide opportunities for children to be involved in the running of the school and ensure their voices are heard, including when they meet with the governing body throughout the year. Personal, Social & Health Education (PSHE) as well as the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of each child is embedded in every aspect of our schools.

Over the past year or so Mrs Grainger has been establishing our 'conscious community', where strong, trusting relationships between all stakeholders result in a respectful yet determined culture to provide the best education for the children every day, to be the best school for your family and to be the best employer for our staff. We hope you have had a chance to attend. If not, the details can be found on our website under the 'Community' tab.

The governing body has had its first meeting of the year. All of us prefer to meet in person although occasionally we may revert to virtual where it suits all parties. We maintain our a 'portfolio style' of governance. Below is the list of Portfolios holders and committees as recently agreed:

- Attendance - Laura Homes
- Community – Tina Griffith and Revd. Leisa Potter
- EYFS – Max Dawes
- Finance – Debs Downer, Caroline Weeks and Stephen Holland
- GDPR – Laura Homes
- Headteacher's Performance Management – Caroline Weeks, Allan Bridges and Stephen Holland
- Inclusion - Caroline Weeks
- Modern Foreign Language - Tina Griffith
- Pay Committee – Debs Downer, Carla Bradshaw, Allan Bridges and Steve Holland
- PE – Allan Bridges
- Premises, Health and Safety: Carla Bradshaw
- Religious Education/SIAMS - Tina Griffith, Revd. Leisa Potter and Sylvia Smith
- Safeguarding – Caroline Weeks
- Standards - Steve Holland, Tina Griffith and Caroline Weeks
- Staffing and Policies – Debs Downer and Steve Holland



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Governors monitor school performance through the portfolios listed and governors meet with leaders to focus on the individual aspects of the Federation Development Plan and track progress.

- Aspire – Laura Homes, Max Dawes
- Unity – Tina Griffith, Allan Bridges, Rev Leisa Potter
- Collaborate – Carla Bradshaw, Sylvia Smith
- Include – Caroline Weeks
- Stabilise – Debs Downer, Stephen Holland

Following the nomination process in the summer term, the governing body has been strengthened with a new parent governor: Max Dawes. His profile can be found on the website under the 'Governance' tab. Our 'Instrument of Government', indicating the categories of governors we can have by law and the governors' Business Interests and attendance can be viewed in the same place. The governors and school leaders look forward to continue to work together to make the Federation schools the best they can be and provide the children with a fantastic education.

Thank you for choosing our schools for your family and for being a part of our community. And a big thank you to the children for being the amazing people they are, giving us purpose every day and bringing happiness.

We trust this letter is informative and useful to you however should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via Sheila Caws, Clerk to the Governing Body (clerk@yarmouthceprimary.co.uk).

Yours faithfully

Carla Bradshaw
Chair of Governors