

Bloxham CE Primary School

Tadmarlon Road, Bloxham, Banbury, OX15 4HP



Be . Build . Become

2nd December 2024

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Volunteers,

The Full Governing Board met on 21st November 2024; at the meeting, the minutes of our meeting on 14th October 2024 were approved and are now available on the [Governors' page of the school website](#) along with useful information about governance at your school.

Governors welcomed Melanie Christianson to her first Governing Board meeting as our newly elected parent governor.



Melanie has two children who have, between them, attended four different primary schools (in both England & America). Melanie has spent time both professionally and as a volunteer working with young people. She has worked in various charities (for example in a business-education partnership in East London, where she recruited business mentors to help children in local disadvantaged schools) and in educational settings (for example she worked at Activate Learning, teaching SEN students, supporting students through work experience placements and teaching English and Maths). Melanie has also held varying voluntary posts supporting schools and children, such as Class

Rep, Treasurer for the PTO, Brownie Guide & Cub Scout Leader, Sunday School Leader, mentor to disadvantaged youth, plus she has organised many parent socials to bring people together.

Our meeting began with a presentation from Mr Charlton in his Music leadership role; governors were pleased to hear about the increased profile of music in our school with a wide range of opportunities available to all pupils resulting in a marked increase in pupils who are now undertaking additional music lessons outside of school time.

At the meeting Governors shared insights from recent governing monitoring in:

- **Safeguarding** - Governors were assured that our Safeguarding policies, practices and procedures remain strong, and we have a culture of safeguarding
- **Special Educational Needs and Disability** – positive reports from governors on this area including the high level of care and support we offer to our pupils to allow them to achieve their very best at our school
- **Early Years** – positive report on the efforts to connect and engage with parents and the significant improvements which have been delivered for our pupils. This was matched with a visit from an external LA Adviser specialising in Early Years who gave a glowing report and said that there are strong examples of exemplary practice.

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' Thessalonians 5: 11

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- **Colleague Wellbeing** – colleagues were positive about the working environment at our school, they confirmed that they feel supported and part of the team and set up to be their best at work.
- **Anti-Bullying week** – pupils were aware of the issues around bullying, did not feel it was an issue at our school and were clear on what they would do if they needed to seek help and felt confident that if they did seek help from a colleague that it would be resolved effectively
- **School Uniform** – it was confirmed that the school is compliant with the statutory guidance on school uniforms and that our policy and offering on this ensures that costs to parents are as low as possible as well as offering options around second hand uniforms.

The relevant governors also confirmed that all teacher appraisals and annual objective setting has been completed (including for Mrs Marshall) and that the Pay Committee has met to review and approve any applicable pay progression cases.

At the end of our meeting governors reflecting on the impact of the meeting and how the school's Christian values have evidently guided the work of colleagues, pupils and the Governing Board.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We have a vacancy for a co-opted Governor – please help us to fill this position by sharing the details on the governance page with family, friends, and any professional networks you have. It is important that we have all governor positions filled so we have a Governing Board with the right range of skills and experiences to ensure that our governance is robust and sustainable and that the school will continue to develop and improve.

We know that it takes a whole community to raise a child and so your continued support and engagement is key to achieving success for the children. As a school community, we all have a common goal to ensure our school is the very best it can be, that our children are happy, love school, thrive and leave our school as well-rounded individuals, ready to face the challenges ahead. As such, we must be role models for the children and every day through our actions and behaviours live up to our [school Christian values](#) – Governors were saddened to hear of some recent parental incidents and ask those involved to reflect on this.

If you would like to know more about governance at your school or would like to contact me, please email me on: chair@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk



Best wishes,
Kevin Moyes
Chair of Governors