



Headteacher: Jo Reeder

Governors Annual Report - July 2024

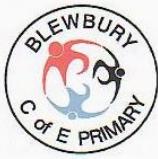
The 2023/24 school year has been another busy and successful year for our School and as part of our commitment to openness and transparency we wish to share with you some of the main highlights.

The significant highlight of the year was of course our very successful Ofsted Inspection. ODST, the staff and governors had all been waiting patiently for this inspection, as we were confident that the issues identified back in 2019 had now been addressed. It was with great pleasure that we received the Ofsted Report, just a few weeks ago, confirming that our overall provision is Good as well as being Outstanding in the early years provision. Those of you who have seen the published Ofsted Report will like us be heartened by the very positive feedback reported in it from our visiting inspectors.

We recognise that, despite this very positive feedback from Ofsted, we can still get better and we are already working to address the areas highlighted by the inspectors as needing further improvement. Our School staff and pupils have worked very hard again throughout this school year, and we are delighted for all of them that Ofsted has given such a resounding acclamation for the progress that they are making. Together we will continue to strive for excellence in all that we do, and we know that the whole School community, including you as parents and carers, is keen for that work to continue and succeed.

The return to normality after the disruptive impact of Covid has also seen the resumption of many activities that had to be suspended or truncated during the difficult period of the pandemic. Many individuals from the wider Blewbury community have generously offered their time to share in the enrichment of the school curriculum, and we are delighted with the expansion of the wider curriculum through initiatives such as our lunchtime and after-school clubs. The School's PTA has also done an amazing job in organising a range of events, including the recent Summer Fete, and we are hugely grateful to them for all that they have done in supporting the wider development of the school. In the coming year we are actively planning new initiatives with Sustainable Blewbury, the Blewbury Players and the Blewbury Croquet Club.

We are, of course, a Church of England school and our Christian ethos is at the heart of all we do. Our vision is based on the parable of the Sower Matthew 13. Our guiding motto is Nurture, Grow, Flourish. Our School is a place for all to belong. Through love we nurture all to grow in their own unique way. We create an environment for all to flourish; to become respectful, compassionate, courageous advocates, who make a difference to our community and the world beyond. We greatly value our links with St Michael's Church in Blewbury and with the wider Churn Benefice and are most grateful to Canon Jason Nicolle for all the time he puts into his work as a governor of the school and in helping us by leading assemblies and special services throughout the year. Further assistance was provided by a team of volunteers who came into School over the course of a week to run the BeSpace initiative,



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which allowed all pupils to engage in a time of quiet prayer and reflection. We know that there was a very positive response to this initiative from pupils, parents and staff, and it is a further example of the support that the wider community gives to our pupils and School.

At the start of the 2023/24 academic year Mr Sam Coleman joined us as our new Assistant Headteacher and he has already made a range of important contributions as he has supported Miss Reeder in her role as Headteacher. As well as being a class teacher he has taken on overall responsibility for curriculum effectiveness, working closely with our Curriculum Leads, Teachers and Teaching Assistants to maximise the impact of our curriculum on all of our pupils. Closely linked to this he has taken on the role of SENDCO ensuring adequate provision for a number of our pupils who have been identified as having Special Educational Needs. He and Miss Reeder have worked extremely well together and have together led the School and our talented staff team through a year with many changes and challenges.

The Governing Board has worked diligently throughout a busy year, managing, as many schools have, a challenging budgetary situation. We have been joined on the Governing Board by Katie Dickens, who has taken on the role of Chair of our Finance and Resources Committee and Sarah Smith, who has been a very active parent governor. Roger Murphy will be leaving the Governing Board at the end of the school year, and he has been thanked for his ten years of continuous service as a governor of the school. We are now in need of recruiting two new governors to bring the Governing Board up to full strength and would love to hear from anyone who would be prepared to consider joining us in this capacity.

The 2023/24 year will end with the departure of a large cohort of Year 6 pupils. We want to wish them all the best as they move on to their secondary schools. They have all made unique contributions to the life of our School and will be missed next year. However, we look forward to hearing about their future achievements and hope that they will come back to see us when the opportunity arises. Throughout the year there has been a number of other pupils departing and arriving, and we will now look forward to welcoming a new group of pupils into our outstanding reception class in September. We currently still have space in all year groups throughout the school and hope that our Ofsted success will encourage other pupils to come to join us. If you know of anyone moving into the area or looking for a new school then please do encourage them to contact the School Office to arrange a visit, as we would be delighted to show them around and tell them more about the school and its many strengths.

Can we end by wishing you all some peace and relaxation over the coming summer break.

With very best wishes

Ann Parham
On behalf of the Blewbury School Governing Board.