

Heckington St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School



Howell Road, Heckington, Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 9RX Telephone: 01529 460633

e-mail: enquiries@heckington.lincs.sch.uk website: www.heckington.lincs.sch.uk

Head Teacher: Mrs Judith Bentley

18th May 2022

Dear new Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to our School.

I am writing on behalf of the school governing board to introduce myself and the work of the governing board by sharing a little about our role and work within the school setting. My name is Amanda Grant, and I am currently the elected Chair of the GB.

We work with the head teacher to ensure all standards, across the curriculum and pastoral expectations including teaching and learning, safeguarding, behaviour, and the wellbeing of all the children is the very best it can be. We know from our recent Ofsted inspection we have everything in place for this school to give your child an excellent rounded experience in all the key subject areas and an enriched and creative experience in the wider activities on offer.

The GB have a set of standing orders, terms of reference and a code of conduct {reviewed annually}, ensuring compliance with English regulations, government, local authority, and diocese guidance. Our role and work are monitored by the Local Authority and the Department for Education, as a Church school we have three foundation governors appointed through the Diocese.

The Governing Board must operate in accordance with the following principles including the following core strategic functions —

- (a) ensuring that the vision, ethos, and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- (b) ensuring that the Head Teacher performs their responsibilities for the educational performance of the school; and
- (c) ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the schools' financial resources.

In doing this the governing board, must act with integrity, objectivity, and honesty and always in the best interests of the school. Our decisions and actions are always recorded, and minutes of meetings and all GB documentation can be found on the school website. The head teacher is accountable to the GB for the performance of her responsibilities and must comply with any reasonable direction of the governing board.

We meet termly as a full board and have smaller working committees receiving evidence, data, and policy updates. We are, enabling challenge and dialogue, by engaging and questioning all the work of the school on a very regular basis. We have link governors that work closely with each class and lead governor appointments with responsibility for core subject areas, including safeguarding and SEND. We gain insight through visiting school, monitoring, speaking, and receiving presentations from staff members and a formal full report from the head teacher covering the curriculum, teaching and learning, attendance, behaviour, safeguarding, SEND and pastoral aspects that impact on our school, these are prepared for each meeting and committee.

Should you wish to know more about the work of your governing board please visit the school website or drop me an email, please be assured that we will always have a listening ear and a willingness to discharge our duties effectively and efficiently. There are two elected parent /carer governors who sit on the Board and are your voice and very active on this working Board.

Every good wish for a fantastic partnership between your home, our school and the elected and appointed governing board.

I look forward to welcoming you this next academic year and hope to meet with you on many occasions throughout your time with us at St Andrew's, Heckington.

Warm wishes,

Dr Amanda Grant Chair of Governors

Email: Chair@heckington.lincs.sch.uk

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