



Carlisle & Hampton Hill Federation

Governors Newsletter to Parents March 2024

Our Governing Board

Headteachers:

Zoe Brittain
Alan Went

Chair of Governors:

Deb Long (LA Governor)

Vice Chair of Governors:

Barbara Clifford (Co-Opted,
and co-chair of A&F)

Co-Opted Governors:

Guy Elliott (Chair of F&P)
Casey Mouton
James Olsen
Jack Pannett (Co-Chair of A&F)
Sarah Parker
Priya Sriskantharajah
Alka Soni (Chair of P&P)
Ros Morgan

Parent Governors:

Helen Cunningham
Lisa Day

Staff Governor:

Camilla Harvey-Jones

Associate Members:

Mandy Appleyard
David Wells
Danielle Fawcett

Clerk: Petra Raccani

Dear all,

In comparison to the Autumn term, Spring term has flown by and here we are at Easter already! Despite a shorter term, I know everyone is ready for a rest. It's been lovely to see the chicks hatching at HHJS and all the brilliant activities from both schools across their social media channels – if you don't follow them already, I can highly recommend the Instagram accounts: carlisleinfantschoolinsta & hampton_hill_juniors.

Congratulations to everyone for all the successes achieved this term – far too many to mention but you are all living out our federation values:

**Happiness, Belonging, Curiosity, Courage, Confidence, Ambition,
Togetherness**

Full Board Meetings & governor activity:

We have had just one full board meeting this term and received reports from all committees as well as the working party and the federation strategy group. Headteachers updated governors on key areas such as attendance, club participation, attainment data, pupil numbers.

This term governors have attended training in: Safer Recruitment; Health & Safety for Governors; Parent Governor Training; Supporting a Whole School Approach to Mental Wellbeing. Governors have also attended school improvement partner visits and have made monitoring visits for health & safety, safeguarding, and writing.

Also, as I explained in December, the full board created a working party to lead on the consultation exploring a possible leadership restructure and the working party have met regularly to see this process through.

Committee Update:

A&F Committee received reports from our school improvement partner which allows them to gain an external view of how both schools are doing against targets set in the school development plan. School leaders updated governors on progress against each of the Ofsted areas – Curriculum, Personal Development, Behaviour & Attitudes, Leadership & Management.

F&P Committee have continued to monitor the school budget and work closely with the federation business manager and the finance team at Achieving for Children. Making sure we have a robust and achievable Deficit Recovery Plan has been the main focus, as well as meeting all statutory requirements and achieving value for money for all purchasing and spending decisions.

P&P Committee: The Headteacher Performance Management Panel carried out the mid-year performance management reviews of both headteachers.

The **Federation Strategy Group** have been looking at what we need to be doing to maintain pupil numbers in the coming years. This includes reviewing the current websites to make sure that they fulfil their purpose, and looking at how we might use them better to showcase our 2 amazing schools. We're also looking ahead to the introduction of the new uniform across the federation and how both schools will share and embed our updated school values and vision.



Following on from my update in December, the governors launched a consultation on a proposed leadership restructure across the federation. During this term, we have carried out that consultation and received a lot of feedback from staff at all levels across the federation. It is a big decision, and really important that governors listened

AOB...

Congratulations to one of our governors Casey Mouton who gave birth to her third child, a lovely baby boy earlier this term. We send her congratulations and lots of love and hope that she enjoys her maternity leave, though it's unlikely she'll be getting much rest!

We wanted to say a big **thank you** to our amazing staff. The last couple of terms have been challenging with the uncertainty around the financial challenges that we're having to face. Any uncertainty is hard but despite these challenges, staff have continued to focus on the children in our schools, and as always do their very best for them. Going above and beyond is just the norm at our two schools and governors are very grateful and proud.

We also wanted to **acknowledge** and **celebrate** all the great work that both the CSA and the HHJSA have been doing so far this year, not only in terms of fundraising but also in providing opportunities for families to get together. Like governors, members of the school associations are volunteers and give up their time to raise much needed money for the schools. They work very hard, and their efforts are hugely appreciated by us and I'm sure all of you – thank you Louise (CSA), and Fawn and Sophie (HHJSA).

And finally.....

I'd like to thank all the governors that give up their time to serve on the governing board of our federation. We come together with different experiences and expertise, but we work together for the good of the school communities within the federation.

We hope you all have a lovely break over the Easter holidays, and we look forward to another busy and successful summer term.

With our very best wishes,

Deb Long

Chair of Governors

Carlisle & Hampton Hill Federation

