

## WEST HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Mid-year Statement to Parents/Carers

Hello to you all! When I wrote to you in July 2020, I had no idea what this school year would bring. I hoped we would have returned to normal in all respects. However, the virus had other ideas and here we are again in a third national lockdown. I do feel, however, that we are reaching the end of the lockdown and sincerely hope that you and your families are well. I think that the return to school will happen soon and I know that your children will benefit from this. We are all watching and listening to the Government guidelines closely!

We, as Governors at the school, have amended our ways of working and have kept in very close contact with the school throughout the current situation. The staff have all worked very hard to make provision for the children and to keep learning fun and relevant. The Governors have recognised this significant effort and we would like to thank every member of staff.

In spite of the lockdown the Governors have managed to recruit new members to the board. We welcome Debbie Stamp-Broadway and Elizabeth Bakalou. Debbie is a Parent Governor and Liz is a Co-opted Governor with an education skills background. Details of all Governors are on the school website. The excellent news is that the Governing Board is full! We are delighted about this achievement and look forward to using the skills of all Governors to promote good school governance.

We have finally completed the national Governor Mark application and will keep you informed of developments. During the process of completing the application we were able to revise some aspects of governance at West Heath Primary School and we made several improvements to our way of working.

### Committee Reports

The two main Committees have worked hard to maintain their respective focus on school plans for education provision with particular emphasis on remote learning; safeguarding of all children; monitoring standards and progress wherever possible; ensuring health and safety at all levels; well-being and welfare of all staff; ensuring that school policies have been upheld and that monies have been spent wisely and in accordance with government principles. We have followed our Plan for the year and made amendments as necessary. We became Zoom experts and now we are becoming Teams experts!

The Governors will continue to meet regularly, as we did before, and will continue to support Mrs Hooper and all the staff during this very difficult time.

I hope we can start being more positive in all aspects. The days are lighter for longer, the vaccine programme is well underway and your children will soon be back in school. Well done to those of you who became 'teachers' during lockdown! It is not an easy job but I know that many of you joined in with the learning activities set by school in order to support your children.

Take care of yourselves and your families and keep safe.

My best wishes to you all.

Frances Millett,

Chair of Governors.

February 2021.

