

PLYMOUTH CAST NEWSLETTER – 4 January 2017

Dear Heads, Governors, Staff and Volunteers

This is the first newsletter of 2017 providing an update on developments across CAST underpinned by the ethos: “We are all Plymouth CAST”:

1. Plymouth CAST Leadership 2017
2. Safeguarding – A Culture of Safeguarding
3. Buildings and Capital Projects
4. Date of Next Newsletter in 2017
5. New Year Wishes

UPDATES

1. Plymouth CAST Leadership 2017

It was agreed at the Board meeting held on the 15th December to appoint Kate Griffin and Lisa Mannall as Joint Interim Executive Officers starting at the beginning of January, initially for a period of 3 months with an option to renew. Marcus Taylor will join them as Chief Operating Officer on 23 January.

The structure and responsibilities will be as follows:

Lisa Mannall will continue to have responsibility for School Improvement. The three area advisers will report to Lisa who will in turn report to the Board.

Kate Griffin will be responsible for all the other areas of the Trust. Reporting to Kate will be Marcus Taylor, David Wells, Diana Taylor and Sarah Adams.

Marcus Taylor will be responsible for delivery of operational and support services across the Trust and will initially be tasked with:

- Reviewing how the Trust operates ‘online’ and make recommendations for investment or improvement. This includes our collaborative working environment; management of our online content and our ability to reliably store data and share information. This is in order to continuously improve levels of service and support to CAST Schools and provide the necessary assurance that the Trust complies with both regulatory and statutory requirements.
- Improve the governance and accountability for provision of CAST support services to our Schools. This includes:
 - Finance, Audit and Monitoring
 - Human Resources and Organisational Development
 - Resource Planning and Scheduling
 - Facilities Management – as Chair of Buildings Committee
 - Health and Safety – as Chair of Health and Safety Committee
 - Continuous Professional Development of Local Governing Bodies

The Board is thankful of having such a talented team to lead the Trust forward.

2. Safeguarding - A Culture of Safeguarding

A. Policy Development

Following the OFSTED Inspection, Local Governing Bodies have worked hard to ensure their Safeguarding Policies are up to date in line with latest guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education (published September 2016 from the Department of Education). Thank you to everyone who has been involved with the policy updating.

B. Heads and Governors Safeguarding Training has been arranged for January 2017

The Safeguarding Training will cover:

- The Governors' Role in Safeguarding
- How to challenge the school in relation to safeguarding
- Principles of safer recruitment.

West Area	Tuesday 24 January 2017	Lanhydrock Hotel , Bodmin
Central Area	Wednesday 25 January 2017	Exeter Racecourse, Haldon
East Area	Thursday 26 January 2017	Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester

The sessions will be run by Maggie Cook who is an ex-Headteacher and now a Safeguarding Trainer and Consultant for Reconstruct. All sessions are from 4.30pm until 8.00pm and include refreshments. Please book your place by emailing Debbie Beech at events@plymouthcast.org.uk by Friday 13 January 2017.

The dates for more in-depth training on Safer Recruitment will be published shortly.

3. Building and Capital Projects

Whilst Safeguarding and School Improvement must remain the key focus of our efforts we cannot afford to ignore the need to maintain and develop our schools. To that end a new Capital and Maintenance procedure will be issued in the next newsletter. In preparation for that we need to be sure that all capital projects are included in the planning; to that end we would be grateful if you would let us know of any project by informing Kate Griffin by the 11th January. (Email admin@plymouthcast.org.uk)

4. DATE OF NEXT NEWSLETTER

Monday 16th January 2017

5. NEW YEAR WISHES

The Directors, Senior Leadership Team and Central CAST Teams send you their good wishes for a peaceful and successful 2017.



Sandy Anderson, Chair
For and on behalf of the CAST Board