



Dear Parents and Carers,

Given the unprecedented change to our school year we thought it would be useful to give you a brief update of the work going on to support our schools. Changes have taken place at such speed that I'm sure, like us, you're still getting used to them. Please give yourselves time to adjust and remember that our health and well-being is our current priority.

Some of you will be using our hub school at Ringmer but the majority of us are staying home and beginning to find our way with home learning. We would like to thank you all for your support of our staff at this time. Virtual teaching and learning is new for our schools and we are all finding our feet! We are exceptionally grateful to our dedicated staff who have undertaken change at remarkable speed and are volunteering to staff the hub school during this time.

Governing during school closures

The board has agreed a remote governing policy which allows us to maintain our responsibilities with the current school closures. We had a virtual full governing board the final week of school, which covered the procedures for closing our schools and creating a hub school for children of key workers, who had no available childcare at home. We confirmed our operational plans should our senior leaders become ill and we have agreed an informal arrangement with our local primary schools for Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors should this be required. The board also agreed our Executive Head Teacher and Chair of Governors have the authority to make decisions in an exceptional circumstance which requires immediate action before the board can be formed.

We will continue with our schedule of board meetings (one per term). Minutes for these meetings are available on our school websites if you would like to read them. Governors carry out monitoring visits throughout the school year but with the closures there are three key areas boards have been advised to monitor. These are: Child Protection, Health and Safety and Well-Being. We have arranged for this monitoring to be undertaken by our Safeguarding governor, Chair and Vice- Chair of Governors.

Our schools will continue to keep you updated but please don't hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions at all.

Wishing you and your family and friends, the very best.

Debra Vice-Holt
Chair of Governors



Gemma Collins
Vice-Chair of Governors



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you need to contact the school as a matter of emergency the school mobile number is 07851 560273

For Free School meals and any emergency support contact Mrs West head@laughton.e-sussex.sch.uk

If you need to report any safeguarding concerns please use the email below which Mrs Brown checks daily dsl@oaktreefederation.co.uk

TRAINING & NETWORKING

This school year our governors have taken part in:

Governor Training

- New Governor
- Chair of Governors
- Schools Finance
- External Funding Opportunities
- Special Educational Needs
- Headteacher Performance Management
- Schools data
- Safer Recruitment in Education
- Data Protection
- School visits

Governor Networking

- Lewes networking group
- Headteachers and Chair of governors group