



OFSTED INSPECTION

In September 2022, Ardeley was visited by OFSTED. It is fair to say that it was a tense experience however, as many of you know, Ardeley was graded 'Good' in all areas. This is a fantastic outcome and one that the whole community can be proud of! All staff worked tirelessly and showed true dedication to the school and its pupils. The children were excellent advocates for the school who welcomed our 'special visitors' with enthusiasm and cheer.

Governors met with the inspectors on a number of occasions during the inspection to discuss the vision and aims for the school's future. We then received feedback on what we are doing well as a whole as well as how we could improve further. It is then the responsibility of the Governing Board to work with the Head Teacher to implement changes that reflect OFSTED's findings. Already, these changes are underway and we have taken steps to move Ardeley St Lawrence forward so that it provides our children with the best possible educational experience.

On behalf of the Governing Board, I would like to thank the Staff and Children for their commitment and teamwork during this time. I would also like to extend thanks to our parents who offered the school much support and good wishes. Of course, we are very grateful to Mrs Young who was a pillar of support for governors, staff and children alike. Whilst it was a stressful experience, it displayed what a strong team the Ardeley Community is!

GOODBYE

The board are sad to say goodbye to two of our governors and our Clerk: Maria Karpatova, Aaron Minson and Harvey Phipson.

Ms Karpatova, our Clerk, has only been with us a short while however; in this time, she has worked diligently and proved herself a reliable and dedicated clerk.

Mr Minson has been a parent governor for the last few years. During this time, he has dedicated his time and expertise to the school and has taken his role as wellbeing lead enthusiastically. Mr Minson has been passionate about the wellbeing of staff and children and has worked tirelessly to ensure that the school is a safe and secure environment. We will miss his diligence and attention to detail as he moves on to new pastures.

Mr Phipson has been a part of the Governing Board for a number of years and a member of the community for even longer. A former parent at the school, Mr Phipson has served the community in a number of ways and has been a valued member of the Governing Board. His hard work, dedication and passion for the school will be sorely missed as will his unwavering support for the staff and school leader.

The Governing Board would like to offer sincere thanks to Ms Karpatova, Mr Minson and Mr Phipson for their contribution, dedication and professionalism. While we are sad to see them go, we wish them all the very best in their future.

WELCOME

The Governors are pleased to welcome two new members to the Board; Mr Chris Evans and Mr Simon Cox who bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience from their respective careers. We are looking forward to working with them and are grateful to them for giving up their time to support the school.

THE GOVERNOR/HEAD TEAM

The role of the Governing Board is to look at the strategic direction and running of the school. We all bring a wide range of experiences and expertise, which helps us to make changes, which we feel, will benefit the school, staff and pupils.

A key part of this role is establishing a close working relationship with the Head Teacher. As a team, we work together to monitor and evaluate the running of the school in all areas from pupil attainment to budgeting to policies. The previous experiences of a Head Teacher, both in Ardeley and in other settings, is invaluable and helps to inform the Board's strategic decisions based on day-to-day practise led by the Head regarding what is, or is not, likely to move the school forward. This working relationship is essential in ensuring the smooth running of the school and is, ultimately, a relationship rooted in mutual respect and the shared aim to move the school forward in the best way possible!

*'And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds,
not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.'*

Hebrews 10: 24-25



With the seasons best wishes to you all at Ardeley,
Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Ardeley St Lawrence Board of Governors

December 2022