

Whitnash Primary School

'Learning, growing and succeeding together'

Headteacher
Mrs Donna Ellison



Langley Road
Leamington Spa
CV31 2EX

Tel: 01926 426773

Fax: 01926 337755

admin2324@welearn365.com

Letter from Chair of Governors to parents - June 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As school prepares to welcome more pupils back into school I wanted to write to you to outline the role the governing body has played in that preparation. These weeks of lockdown will no doubt have taxed us all in different ways. I take my hat off to those of you who have managed home schooling, the extra pressures of just living under lockdown and, for many, having to work from home all at the same time. Each week I have been delighted to see the examples of work the children have been doing at home. It is all very impressive. Equally impressive has been the commitment of the staff to maintaining the learning programmes on line and keeping in touch with all families to offer support and advice. This has been alongside the provision for the children of key workers in school and continuing to manage other professional tasks which are a regular part of their job. Our very grateful thanks go to them.

Throughout the lockdown period Mrs Ellison has worked tirelessly to try and anticipate the next phase of opening up the school and then responded to the significant amounts of guidance which have been produced. Throughout this time, we have been in contact enabling a regular and detailed input from the governing body. This has been a difficult task, as we have grappled with the very strongest desire to keep children and staff as safe as is possible with the challenge of ensuring that the school experience we can offer is a positive one. Life in school will be a different experience, of that there is no doubt. We know we cannot guarantee safety, much as we would like to, as there remain many unknowns about this virus. However, we can guarantee that every effort has been made to mitigate as many potential problems as we can, and to reassure you by publishing the detailed plans that the school will continue to adjust and adapt as we learn more about what works best.

Last week governors held a video conference meeting to properly analyse the plans and the risk assessments and seek further information from Mrs Ellison. Following extensive discussion governors approved the plans allowing them to be shared with you at the earliest possible opportunity. We know that many of you are still undecided about your own decisions on whether to send your children back at this stage or keep them at home for a little longer.

Continued



We hope that the plans have gone some way to allaying your fears, answering your questions and putting you in the best position to make an informed decision. Whatever that decision is, the school remains here for you and your children and will do everything it can to continue to support learning whether at home or school.

Governors are very proud of the headteacher and staff at Whitnash and recognise how lucky we are to have such a professional and committed team. We are very grateful to them all. We also want to thank all of you for your continued support as we move through this next important phase towards returning to some sort of normality. We hope you all continue to stay well and keep safe and look forward to welcoming you all back when the time is right and it is safe to do so.

With very best wishes,
Lorrie Cooper and Governing Body