

Chairs End of Year Report – September 2020–July 2021



Achieved in this Period

- This was my fourth year as Chair at King's Lodge School and it was again a very different year altogether! Due to the continuing pandemic none of us have been able to be in school as much as we would have liked and the rota of visits and discussions with both children and teachers has not been possible.
- As a Governing body we have hosted numerous virtual meetings using the MS Teams software which has been brilliant. This has allowed us to have meetings at short notice and focus on particular issues.
- We started the year in September opening up the whole school based on Government advice and it was fantastic to see the children back in school. However, despite Covid cases increasing nationally over the Christmas break schools were instructed to open as before. Both Kim, myself and another Governor were interviewed live on BBC breakfast saying how safe we had made the school and how nice it was to see the children back in class. Only a few hours later however we were the victims of a Government U-turn and all schools were ordered to close again! This was devastating news for us all but we were well prepared with our MS Teams platform being ready to deliver high quality home learning and in-situ learning for the children of Key Workers.
- Following the re-opening of the school in the spring we maintained our bubble structure and extra mitigations were put in place to limit the spread of Covid. Governors continued to meet on-line during this time whilst vaccinations were rolled out. It has been frustrating for us all not to have been able to visit the school as much as we would have liked but we have been kept fully abreast of all issues and measures being put in place.
- As leaders we decided to open up the Before and After school provision in order to support families where parents needed to return to work. we have continued to see the club run at a loss as more parents continue to work from home. We continue to believe that the provision of the after school club is an essential part of our offering to the community.
- Over the summer holidays the school has seen some large capital works take place. You will all have noticed the new uPVC windows in the upper key stage block and the new lick of paint. Internally we have had all of our lighting replaced with new LED lighting. Both of these things will support us being a greener school as far as energy usage is concerned. This makes the whole school look brighter and airier for the children who spend so much of their day within it and builds on the original investment the Governors chose to make a couple of years ago in several of the classrooms. This time however the finance team secured funding from Wiltshire Council for both the windows and the lighting.

Chairs End of Year Report – September 2020 – July 2021



Focus for Next Period

There will be loads for us to focus on next year and we'll use the first functional committee and FGB of the new school year to discuss these areas but some that come to mind are:

- Support Kim and the staff in the re-introduction of a full school timetable in September 2021
- Ensuring the new phonics and reading scheme for the lower key stages has impact.
- Prepare for a successful Ofsted
- Be ready for any change in government policy due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Work with Kim on agreeing a way forward for the school to run a successful after school club
- Governor visits – rota and to include sessions with teachers and children
- Governor training to resume, with a focus on safeguarding.
- Continue to monitor budgets and look for new income and agree ways forward for future years
- Plan future phases of external work to help maintain the building and keep up appearances.

For further info, including attendance and terms of office please go to the website:

http://www.kingslodge.wilts.sch.uk/?page_id=4493