

Inkberrow First School  
Governors Report 2019



'Love to learn, learn to care'



**Welcome to our annual Governors' Report. We hope you find the contents interesting, informative and useful.**

### **LOCAL GOVERNING BODY (LGB) CHANGES**

Our LGB is made up of 14 Governors and 5 Associate Governors, all of whom are volunteers. This year we have welcomed 5 new members: Mike Pashby, Mike Newbury, Chris Burdett, Tim Patrickson and Noel Fowler, all of whom live within our local community and bring a wealth of educational and/or business expertise and experience. An Election for a new Parent Governor will be held in the Autumn term and this is open to any new or existing parent of a child at the school. If you would like further information on what the role entails please contact either Helen Lees, Clerk to the Governors, or Maggie Hazlewood, Parent Governor.

Our Chair of Governors, Ann Derbyshire, will be standing down after 12 years. Ann has worked tirelessly for the LGB and always kept abreast of educational and legislative developments to ensure that Inkberrow First School remains ahead of the curve. Ann played a pivotal role in the Avonreach Academy Trust (AAT) formation and our change of age range process. She has also been a tremendous support to our Headteacher, Heather Thomson, and will be greatly missed by all of us on the LGB. Ann's replacement will be elected by governors in the Autumn term.

All new and existing Governor details are available to view on the school website, as are the Approved Minutes of Full GB Meetings. Please do not hesitate to speak to any of our members if you have anything you would like to be included on the meeting agendas. Also, please be reminded that Inkberrow First School Policies are available on the Policies webpage for your reference - these include important policies on anti-bullying, safeguarding, SEND, health and safety, conduct, medical (including asthma) and much more. There is also a link to the AAT Policies webpage.

As well as strategic planning, we continue to closely monitor all aspects of teaching and learning in the school, and you can also read some of the Governor Visit Reports on the school website.

### **HEADTEACHER RETIREMENT**

Sadly, this year we also say goodbye to Mrs Heather Thomson who is retiring after a teaching career spanning forty years, fifteen of which have been as the Headteacher of our school. She has spearheaded some extremely successful initiatives within

the school such as the introduction of Inky the Owl, whose good learner values have and will continue to positively influence the learning journey of hundreds of young children. Her management of the school has been exceptional and of course under her leadership we were able to achieve the coveted 'Outstanding' rating from Ofsted. She has also led us to become a National Support School and in her role as a National Leader in Education she has supported a number of Worcestershire schools again this year, providing additional income for IFS. She will be missed greatly by pupils, staff, parents/carers and governors.

We are looking forward to welcoming Mr Glenn Duggan as our new Headteacher in September. Mr Duggan comes to us as an experienced Primary School Headteacher and he is looking forward to managing the next exciting stage of our growth. He has and will continue to work closely with Mrs Thomson over the Summer to ensure a seamless transition.

#### **STAFF CHANGES & TRAINING**

This year we welcomed Miss Hannah Fowler as class teacher for Year 1. Our Teaching Assistant (TA) for Year 1, Mrs Rebecca Done is currently on maternity leave and we would like to congratulate her on the birth of her beautiful daughter. We welcomed Mrs Claire Knock to the TA team as Ms Done's maternity cover, and Claire will remain with us in Year 1 whilst Ms Done will be supporting our Reception class when she returns. We would also like to thank Ms Flo Berry for expertly covering Mrs Casati's maternity leave and we wish her well in her new role at Norton Juxta Kempsey, one of our partner AAT schools. We welcomed back Mrs Casati and also welcomed Mrs Wheate-Price as an additional TA in Reception.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming Miss Lori Yates as our new Year 4 class teacher from September and Ms Debbie Besent who will be supporting our Early Years for just a few hours a week. We continue to invest heavily in staffing and training in order to maintain our exceptionally high standards. Special congratulations to Mr Knight for successfully achieving his National Senior Leadership qualification and Miss Holliday for achieving her National Middle Leadership qualification.

## **INKBERROW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We now begin the first phase of our long-awaited conversion from a First School to a Primary School, allowing us to extend the children's learning at Inkberrow by an additional two years. We begin with our first Year 5 class, 'Kestrels', in September and will introduce Year 6 in September 2020. Mrs McPherson, who previously taught our current Year 4 class, will move up with them to Year 5. She has experience of teaching Years 5 and 6 and has been busy curriculum planning with the team in school and across the Trust since the approval. As predicted, the uptake for this provision has been very high, but we do have a couple of spaces available. Some internal structural changes have taken place in order to accommodate the two new classes and an extension to the playground has also been successfully completed. We are satisfied that we have been able to maximise the space available and all our classrooms remain above average size.

As previously communicated there will not be a uniform change, although all new yellow uniform purchased will read 'Inkberrow Primary School'. For low income families there may be some financial assistance available for uniform (as well as free school meals, financial support with school trips, after school activities etc.) Please check with Miss Anne Hiley in the school office, who will be able to guide you through the process.

## **AVONREACH ACADEMY TRUST**

It is now nearly 2 years since AAT was formed and we are seeing considerable benefits from the links we have with the other three schools. The Educational Leadership Team, which is made up of the Headteachers of the four schools and the CEO of the Trust, have been meeting on a regular basis, with a particular focus on the Year 5 and 6 Curriculum, ready for our change to a Primary School. This has been an extremely useful exercise and results in the three First Schools being 'ahead of the game' in their preparations for September. The involvement of the High School in this process means that they are well informed to take our pupils into Year 7 in 2021. This team will continue to work together to build on the excellent progress it has made so far.

The sharing of activities and resources has also brought benefits. This will continue next year with our pupils being able, for example, to access Science Labs and Technology facilities together with subject specialist staff. We also expect progress on economies in purchasing power to be evident next year. A considerable amount of work is also being done to streamline policies.

## CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS

Staff and children have been incredibly busy and productive in school again this year and here are just some of the amazing things our children have participated in. This is such a wonderful way to extend their learning and create memories and friendships that will hopefully last a lifetime.



## FRIENDS OF INKBERROW FIRST SCHOOL (FOIFS)

Team FOIFS have had yet another incredible year raising over £7,500 for our school. This year they held a fabulous Bavarian Night and a Quiz Night which brought together members of our wider community and raised circa £1,000 per event. Their recent 'Greatest Show' Summer Fete raised a record breaking £2,500! Other events this year included the Christmas Fayre, Movie Night, Halloween Event, Easter Egg Hunt as well as selling merchandise such as the wonderful school tea towel (some of which are still available to purchase). Monies raised have already been put to good use and FOIFS proudly contributed £4,000 to the playground extension, purchased a new smart board, cameras, a rug for the Reception classroom, books, plants for our grounds, pantomime snacks for the children and funded coach travel to Young Voices.

There remains a national school funding crisis so these fundraising initiatives are more important than ever. Thank you for your continued support with these events. If you are interested in helping in some small way please contact Karen Uppal (karene.uppal@gmail.com) or check out the 'Friends of Inkberrow First School' Facebook page. If you wish to make a financial or resource donation to the school please contact the school office on 01386 792284 or email [office@inkberrowfirst.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@inkberrowfirst.worcs.sch.uk).



Mr Duggan



Miss Yates



**INKBERROW FIRST SCHOOL  
DATA HEADLINES 2017/18**

(Please note data for this year has not yet been released)

Our data chart from the last academic year shows that our high standards have been maintained, with attainment yet again above both the local and authority and national levels.

There are no national comparisons for Years 3 and 4 as they have not yet completed the Key Stage 2 Curriculum. However, both the Teacher Assessments and end of year standardised age scores in Year 4 show a high % working at or above the expected for their age showing good progress over Key Stage Two.

RECEPTION: (29 pupils) END OF FOUNDATION STAGE	<b><u>% Attaining a Good Level of Development - Above both LA and National Statistics</u></b> CLASS = 86% GLD (25/29) Above LA (70%) and National (71%)
YEAR ONE (27 pupils)	<b>PHONICS TEST - Above both LA and National Statistics</b> SCHOOL = 89% Attained Standard for Age
YEAR TWO (22 pupils) KS1 Results (Using 2017 National and LA figures as comparison)	<b><u>% Attaining a Good Level of Development - Above both LA and National Statistics</u></b> READING 82% ARE+ (N = 76%) WRITING 82% ARE+ (N = 68%), MATHS 82% ARE+ (N = 75%)
YEAR FOUR	<b><u>No National Comparisons as Mid KS2</u></b> READING 90% ARE+, WRITING 81% ARE+, MATHS 81% ARE+

\*ARE Age Related Expectations

Data Headlines / Comparisons for 2018/19 are published in **October 2019**.

Our School Analysis to date shows excellent progress and attainment for the 2018/19 academic year with attainment above the Local Authority and National based on initial data feedback.

## VACANCY

There is currently a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol Officer. If you or anyone you know might be interested in being greeted by tens of little smiling faces each morning and afternoon, whilst helping keep them safe, please encourage them to apply via the Worcestershire County Council website: [www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/27407/school-crossing-patrol/](http://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/27407/school-crossing-patrol/)

## THANK YOU

The LGB would particularly like to thank our tremendous team of school staff for their hard work and diligence over the past year. The school could not maintain such high standards without their energy, drive and commitment. They all seek continual improvement, which is illustrated by their take up of training opportunities. They also face every new challenge with professionalism and care. Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Office Staff, Lunchtime Supervisors and Cleaners - Thank You!

To all our parents, carers and the wider community - THANK YOU for your continued support, be it through working with the children to extend their learning at home, attending fundraising events, offering your time, expertise or providing other resources to school. We are proud to be at the heart of our thriving local community and look forward to your continued support in the new school year.

