

Elmgrove Primary School & Nursery 2020-21 Governors' Report

For every school across the country, the academic year coming to an end has provided no shortage of challenges as a result of the pandemic; nevertheless, it is greatly to the credit of Miss Neary and the staff at Elmgrove Primary School and Nursery that high quality education has continued, and that the children have had so many opportunities to develop in their learning.



The role of the Governing Body is an important one – governors are often and aptly described as a critical friend. On the one hand, governors must be supportive of the school and like any true friend, be there to support, encourage and help along the way. Yet constructive criticism is also imperative and providing challenge, scrutiny and probity is important in any organisation. I know that Governors very much enjoy working in partnership with the School and find it a tremendous honour and privilege to play a role in the education of your children.

Inevitably, there are particular points of focus on which the School is working; delivering the very best possible outcomes in raising educational standards for every pupil. Much work has also gone into developing and evolving the curriculum, seeking to make sure that it equips every learner for a rapidly changing world of disruptive technologies and competitive job markets. To be real-world ready means understanding the society and culture around us, with pupils marking Black History Month, exploring the challenges of pollution in our nation's capital, and thinking about solutions to it, as characterised by the big pedal cycle-to-school initiative.



Amidst all of the other things taking place this year, few could have failed to notice the demolition of the old school buildings and the ongoing work to build a new set of buildings to house the School. Things are certainly progressing well and the way that staff and pupils have adjusted to their new surroundings has been greatly to their credit.

On a personal note, I will sadly be stepping down as Chair of Governors and from the Governing Body after six years on the Board, and after three years as Chair. I will be taking up the Headship of Hereford Cathedral School and wish my successor and the School every happiness and success in the years ahead.

In the meantime, however, may I wish you all a very restful summer with ongoing thanks for all your support of the School during this academic year.

Dr Michael Gray

Chair of Governors