



The Westminster School

Safe, Happy and Learning Together

Governors' Annual Report to Parents 2019/2020



Governors are pleased to report that The Westminster School continues to go from strength to strength and that they have fulfilled their statutory duties. Governors have worked hard to support Mrs Hill and our new Head Teacher Mr Flowers and their team and become actively involved in the life of the School.

The Governors would like to thank Mrs Hill for her dedication and commitment to the School community since joining us in 2001. We wish Mrs Hill a long and happy retirement.

We would like to welcome Mr Flowers as our new Head Teacher, taking over the reins in April 2020. Mr Flowers has been with the School since 2014, and was most recently our Deputy Head Teacher. This has been a very difficult period nationally and globally, but Mr Flowers and the Senior Leadership Team (Mr Taylor, Deputy Head Teacher and Mrs Turner, Deputy Head Teacher) have successfully steered the School through this very difficult time.

The Governors also wish to thank all School staff for their enthusiasm and hard work during this unprecedented period. Unfortunately, Governors have not been able to come into School as they normally would but they are aware of all the amazing things staff have done including providing online lessons, YouTube videos, class socials on MS Teams and ensuring vulnerable pupils and pupils with key worker parents/carers have been fully supported in school. The Governors are also grateful to the Admin Team who have worked hard to ensure that the School can continue to run as smoothly as possible.

The Governors would also like to thank parents and carers for their support during the lockdown period. We realise that this year was a very anxious and troubling time, and you have supported the School to ensure our whole School community remains as safe as possible.

Governors meetings have continued to take place virtually, through MS Teams, during the period of lockdown, so as to ensure an uninterrupted schedule of Governors meetings through the latter part of the academic year.

Mrs Sue Gough remains as Chair of Governors. Mrs Gough has been a Governor for several years and this is her second period as serving as Chair. Mrs Gough is also the School's Independent Careers Advisor and works closely with pupils and their parents.

All Governors have been offered, and have taken part in, a number of professional development training courses. These have included developing their role as effective Governors, safeguarding and e-safety

Throughout the year the Chair of Governors has been in regular contact with the Head Teacher. These meetings have focussed upon steering the School successfully through this unprecedented period of national lockdown and also planning for the future to ensure that we were ready to continue with our development priorities once we returned to School in September 2020.

Governors continue to review policies to ensure that all guidance is current, up-to-date and is complied with. These are all available for you to view on the School website. Particular focus is made on ensuring that our pupils are safe, happy and learning in School.

Governors continue to work with Mr Flowers to maintain a balanced budget during these challenging times.

We continue to work hard to ensure that our pupils are taught by a talented, qualified and dedicated team of staff. Governors ensure that all staff are supported, trained and monitored to be able to meet the needs of each and every pupil. Governors focus on the progress that each one makes.

There is a section of our website which is focussed on Governance matters, which is regularly updated.

Sue Gough
Chair of Governors