



# Carrington Junior School

Interim Head Teacher: Mrs E Cameron

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Dear Parents and Carers

This note is from the CJS Governors to update you on the work of the Board over the past year or so.

As you will of course expect, the governors work has been dominated by supporting the school and the whole school community through these difficult COVID times. We have been very fortunate to have as members of the Board experts in Public Health and risk assessment and staff with experience of remote learning to work with and support the school. Everyone worked very hard from the very first lockdown in March 2020 to put in place measures to make the school as safe as possible and control infection.

Some of these measures remain in place now, even with ever-changing government guidelines, but we continue to do what is possible so as to minimise spread of infection in school. We have learned what works well and what needs to continue and your children will now be well used to these routines.

As you know, infection levels in our area are currently very high so we all continue to be vigilant to minimise the impact on school so as to prevent a move to remote learning and increased absence. We thank you for your support and help to achieve this, especially with social distancing, testing and isolating as required.

Meanwhile, a lot of work has been done to develop and refine the remote learning offer, and, if required, the school shall ensure your children have the devices and support to access learning from home.

Sickness and the need for isolation amongst staff has been difficult to manage, especially this term, as I am sure you are aware. We are grateful for your forbearance and the commitment of the staff to keep everything going as normal as far as possible. We sincerely hope that, once Spring arrives, infection levels will fall and life and work will be easier for everyone.

As you will of course understand, life goes on pandemic or not so governors have worked remotely to ensure wellbeing of everyone, develop the school strategy, support and challenge the school to develop the curriculum, appoint new staff and do the best for everyone's achievement, oversee finances, develop and approve contracts and so on. Those of you who have been able to go into the school will have noticed big improvements to the environment (eg the courtyard as the new jubilee garden) and on the playground which we hope your children appreciate and enjoy.

We are mindful of our core values of Believe Achieve Succeed in taking decisions and for everything we do.

With all the above in mind, the Board agreed that following the resignation and subsequent retirement of Mrs Majcher last year that the right thing to do at that time was to appoint Mrs Cameron and Ms Gibbons as interim Head Teacher and Deputy respectively to ensure leadership stability as we move out of the pandemic. The governors now believe the time is right to make a permanent appointment for both Head and Deputy to enable the senior team to build for the longer-term development of the school and a smooth transition out of the pandemic.

The post of Head Teacher will be externally advertised on both the school and Bucks website and via social media and interviews are planned for 15<sup>th</sup> March. Our information pack sets out what we believe we should value and consider in the person we appoint, but if you would like to share your thoughts on this, please feel free to email me in confidence on [asheddick@carringtonjs.co.uk](mailto:asheddick@carringtonjs.co.uk) with your views.

I would also like to introduce you to our newly appointed Parent Governor, Alastair Gill. He has a child in the school and lives in the village and comes with an ICT and HR background. We look forward to working together.

Meanwhile, we do still have 3 vacancies on the Board to co-opt new governors. So, if you or any of your family, friends or colleagues would be interested in joining us, please do ask them to get in touch. It is an opportunity to make a positive difference to the children in the village and work with us as a team. Please contact me to arrange a chat via the email address above or the school office. There is also some information about being a governor on the school website here [Become a Carrington Governor](#).

Thank you once again for all the help and support you give the school. It is by working together as a school community that we together make this a happy and successful school for your children.

With best wishes to you all on behalf of the Governing Board.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Anne Sheddick'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Sheddick  
Chair of Governors Carrington Junior School