

Chapel Allerton Primary School – Mid-Year Governor Update 2024–2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of the Chapel Allerton Primary School Community,

As we move into the second half of the 2024–2025 academic year, I'm pleased to provide this mid-year update from the Governing Body. This is an opportunity to share changes within the board, celebrate recent successes (including our latest Ofsted inspection) and reaffirm our commitment to supporting Chapel Allerton Primary School in providing an exceptional and inclusive education for all our pupils.

Changes to the Governing Body

The last 18 months have brought a period of change and renewal within the Governing Body.

- **New Appointments:** During the 2023–2024 academic year, we welcomed three new governors: myself, Jenny, along with Marcus and Nicola. We've spent the past year getting to know the school community, attending monitoring visits, and supporting school improvement priorities.

This academic year (2024–2025), we've welcomed four additional governors: three co-opted members, Emily, Laura and Stephen and one associate governor, Leah. Their enthusiasm, varied professional backgrounds, and commitment to our school values are already proving a great asset.

- **Departures and Thanks:**
 - **Bobbie Gresser** stepped down in September after eight years of service, including four as Chair of Governors. Bobbie's leadership was passionate and thoughtful, and she supported the school through some pivotal years. Her contribution to governance, and her commitment to equity, inclusion and pupil voice, will be greatly missed.
 - **Tom Leech**, one of our longest-serving governors, stepped down after an incredible 12 years on the board. His extensive knowledge of school systems, wise counsel, and deep-rooted belief in the school's mission have helped shape strategic decisions for over a decade.
 - **Mary Dailey** stepped down this year after seven years of dedicated service. Mary brought insight, warmth and a strong commitment to pupil wellbeing and the quality of teaching throughout her term.
 - **Emma Heatley**, who served as Vice-Chair, relocated to Australia and has now formally stepped down. Emma provided thoughtful leadership and was instrumental in driving policy initiatives and curriculum monitoring during her time on the board.

To each of these governors, Bobbie, Tom, Mary, and Emma, we extend our sincere gratitude for the time, expertise, and heart they have given to Chapel Allerton Primary.

Ofsted Inspection – May 2024

In May 2024, the school received a full Ofsted inspection. We're proud to share that **Chapel Allerton continues to be rated a 'Good' school**, with the report highlighting many aspects of excellence across teaching, leadership, pupil experience, and personal development.

Here are some of the highlights:

- **Happy, Confident Pupils**
“Pupils at Chapel Allerton Primary School are happy and confident. Staff help children in the early years become resilient so they are able to take on new challenges.”
- **Strong Behaviour and Respect**
“Pupils behave with maturity. They show respect for one another. Bullying is rare. Pupils know adults will help them if they are worried.”
- **Engaging, Ambitious Curriculum**
“The school has developed a curriculum that is exciting and highly relevant to pupils. It includes the knowledge, vocabulary and skills pupils need to succeed in future learning.”
- **Enrichment and Personal Growth**
“Leaders plan opportunities that broaden pupils’ horizons. These include cultural visits, talks from inspirational individuals and opportunities to debate important topics.”
- **Effective Safeguarding**
Safeguarding procedures were judged to be robust, and pupils reported feeling safe and well-supported in school.

The full report is available to read on our school website [here](#). We hope you’ll take time to read it, we are proud of the recognition it gives to our hard-working staff, children, and leadership team.

Ongoing Achievements

Alongside a successful Ofsted, the school continues to demonstrate commitment to the wider development of every child:

- **MindMate Friendly Status** – Awarded in recognition of our proactive approach to supporting pupil mental health and emotional well-being.
- **PSHE Friendly Status** – Acknowledging high-quality delivery of Personal, Social, Health and Economic education, preparing children to become healthy, responsible, and informed individuals.

Looking Ahead

As a Governing Body, we remain focused on our core purpose: to support the leadership team, uphold the school’s vision and values, and hold the school to account in delivering the very best for every child.

We are:

- Continuing our monitoring visits to support curriculum development, safeguarding, inclusion and pupil progress.
- Reviewing school policies and strategic priorities in light of the Ofsted report.
- Supporting the leadership team with ambition, challenge and care as we move into the next phase of school improvement.
- Continuing to actively review the impact of the UK cost of living on our school community to ensure informed and supportive decision-making.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Chapel Allerton Primary school thrives because of its committed staff, engaged families, and passionate community. If you’re interested in finding out

more about the work of the governing body, or how you might get involved, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Warm regards,

Jenny Hand

Chair of Governors

Chapel Allerton Primary School