

## **St Martin's Church of England Primary School & Nursery**

### **Introduction to our Governing Board Annual Impact Statement 2020-21**

The Governing Board (GB) for St Martin's wishes to provide a clear and concise outline of what we have achieved since September 2020 and hope these two documents allow you to see that.

Every school Governing Board is required to complete an Annual Impact Statement and ours is attached. It is a lengthy statement, but I trust it is easy to read. It contains loads of information that demonstrates what we have done over the past eleven months.

You will read our conclusions that everyone at the school has done an amazing job over the past eleven months, our children have been provided with a wonderful experience despite all the difficulties the school and our community has faced. The school has done more than any other school we know of in keeping children in full-time education and supporting those studying at home. We are lucky in having such a committed and dedicated team. The lockdowns and everything else that has accompanied the pandemic appears to have affected our children less than many others. By this we mean their academic achievement and their general wellbeing. We feel the school has been key in this by providing care, support, stability and confidence.

In saying this and everything else in the report the Governing Board takes care and makes sure it is relying on facts. We can account for what we say by monitoring activity at the school, reviewing data, asking questions and holding the school leadership to account. We have a good relationship with staff at the school, but our key focus is on what is best for all of the children at our school, so we are not afraid to ask tough questions.

That said, I believe the GB has supported Mrs Harvey and her staff, discussing how to operate the school in difficult situations, checking risk assessments, monitoring staff welfare, offering advice and valuing the work being undertaken. There have been numerous meetings, initially through video calls and phone calls but as restrictions have reduced, we have been able to have personal contact.

The school has a detailed but clear plan for 2021/22 and the GB has confidence that the school will, yet again, provide an outstanding education for our children.

The thorny issue of the recruitment and retention of governors remains. Being a governor is a significant commitment but a valuable and worthwhile one. If you are interested in becoming a governor please contact me, my details are listed below.

**John Clements, Chair of the Governing Board**

***johnclements@stmartinscranbrook.devon.sch.uk***