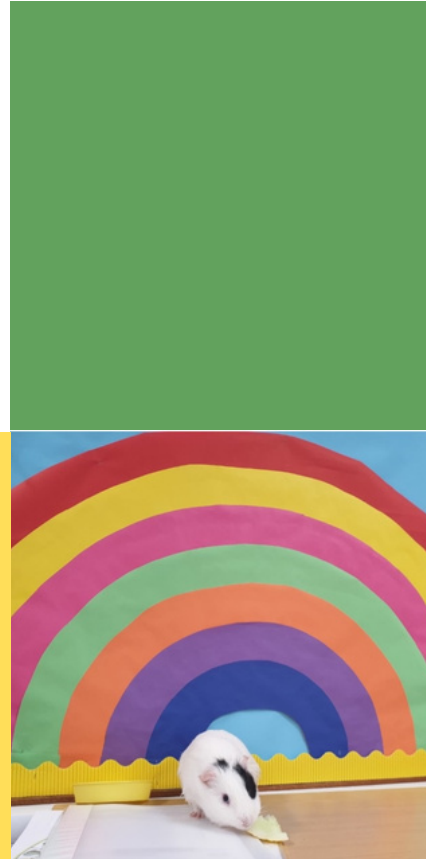




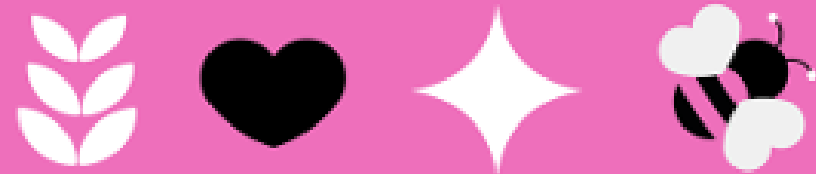
# Local Governing Body Annual Report 2020-2021

Longlands Primary School   
Part of the **Marches** Academy Trust



# Longlands Community Primary School

A place to grow, laugh & learn.



# Our Values



**Excellence:** striving always for mastery and personal success



**Integrity:** consistently acting with honesty, compassion and respect



**Empathy:** embracing and supporting the uniqueness of every individual



**Creativity:** inspiring and challenging through invention, experimentation and exploration



**Equality:** ensuring fair opportunity for all

# Reflections

It has been a challenging time in our schools over the last 18 months. Since the news of this strange new virus started to reach us, our schools have had to completely re-invent the way they provide an education for their students and support their well-being and safety.

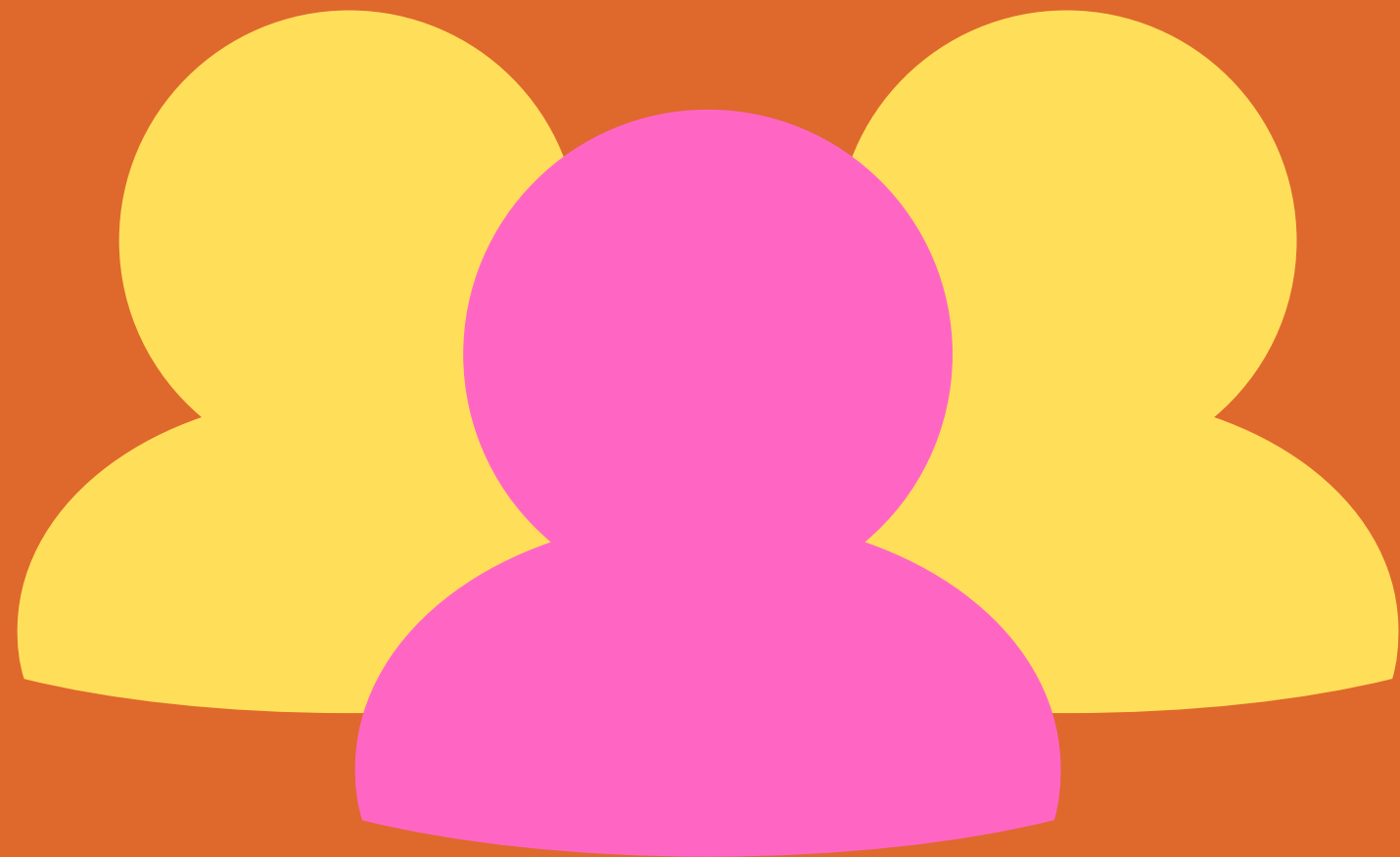
I have never been prouder of the profession. The care, compassion, dedication and pure hard work of the teachers, support staff, Trust Headteachers and Trust leaders to do the very best for the young people in their care and the community has been extraordinary. Against a backdrop of Government U-turns and changing guidance published at the very last minute, our Trust and schools have just got on with the job in hand, This has involved listening and adapting to the needs our pupils and our communities, providing education for all by providing on site education for our most vulnerable pupils and adapting to using remote platforms for students who had to remain at home.

On a positive note, we have been able to pause and reflect, learning some valuable lessons which we will use to help shape the future of our educational provision.



*Mrs Cope*  
HEAD TEACHER

# Attendance



Attendance during lockdown has remained better than national averages. Attendance has remained a high priority throughout the pandemic with very tight systems in place daily for reporting and tracking absenteeism. Persistent absence still remains in sharp focus for the coming months.

Pupil surveys highlight that children feel happy and safe and want to come to our school. We have been highly proactive as a school throughout the two lockdown periods providing places for all vulnerable and SEND pupils, except for two who were shielding. A team of four Engagement Officers phoned all pupils and parents who were accessing remote education from home in order to support families and keep the momentum for learning going. Our Family Support Worker kept in contact with other families identified as becoming vulnerable in order to support them at home.

# School of the Future



As a school, we have used the lessons learned through lockdown, to shape our vision for our 'School of the Future.' We have begun to re-design our curriculum to allow children those pause moments, to have more opportunities to learn in our outdoor environment, to get involved with more diverse opportunities to talk, to improve their vocabulary hoard, to debate, to perform, to become confident communicators and deep thinkers. We will review our technology to capitalize on our learns from lockdown.

Already we have expanded our Eco- Garden and Social Farm and are using the expertise of the British Wildlife Trust and Nature Friendly Schools to improve teaching and learning in the outdoors.

Our bespoke recovery curriculum means that pupils have access to tailored learning and support activities in order to help with their ongoing personal development and well-being.

# Improvements to infrastructure and processes

## School Nursery

Due diligence procedures and consultations with the community have been carried out in preparation for the school and to take over the running of the on-site nursery and TUPE over the existing staff for September 2021. The Trust have applied to the DfE for an age extension so we can educate two-year old pupils through to 11-year olds.

## Nature Friendly

Planning and preparations are underway with the Nature Friendly Schools Project for the conversion of the inner courtyard into an outdoor classroom complete with a protective sail. This will be completed in the summer holidays.



## Online Delivery

Through the second period of lockdown we developed a very successful remote learning package using Panopto which comprised of a sequence of daily lessons for our pupils to access their learning at home. We will continue to utilise this valuable resource in future practice to deliver our pre-learning and some intervention sessions.

The Seesaw App was also used very successfully by staff daily to support and encourage the home learning process, communicate and answer questions and to post and acknowledge work and is being continually used as a communication platform for staff and parents.

All staff have been trained and are using CPOMs to record any safeguarding concerns. These are closely tracked and monitored by Designated Safeguarding Leads.



## Targets and Appraisals

All line managers, with responsibility for Performance Pathway Reviews, have been trained by the Trust in appraisal and setting smart and achievable performance targets to ensure that there is a common approach to target setting and language used.

Adaptions have been made to the in-school monitoring schedule linking it to all staff and senior leadership meetings to guarantee that there is a systematic process of self-evaluation, CPD and the maintenance of standards across curriculum subjects.



# Schools Strategic Development

## Senior Leadership Review

A senior leadership review has taken place to improve the line management structure and to align individual job descriptions to ensure clarity of roles and responsibility and to improve accountability.



## Primary Improvement Curriculum Teams

Primary Improvement Curriculum Teams have been developed for maths, English, curriculum, EYFS, moderation and assessment, SEND and Safeguarding/LAC to work jointly to share best practice, develop a collective rationale to ensure evidence-based practice in all schools and to reduce workload.

The Trust's new live School Overview File has been further developed to tie all essential documents together for ease of planning, monitoring and reporting purposes.





# School Improvement

External Standard Reviews have been introduced and carried out by External Advisors and Trust Executives in order to provide rigour and challenge for the senior leadership team. Termly quality assurance reviews are planned to ensure all school development and curriculum plans are fit for purpose and to make sure that practice is driving up standards and improving outcomes for all our pupils.

A recently appointed Executive Director for Primary (EDPE) has worked with the Senior Leadership Team both in an advisory and coaching capacity to help develop clear lines of accountability, improve monitoring and appraisal systems, align systems to reduce workload for staff and help identify CPD opportunities to ensure there is an investment in all staff.

An independent PE Deep Dive was commissioned by the Trust to review the quality of PE throughout the school and several actions were identified and added to the Primary Physical Education and Sports Strategy Plan 2021 /22 in order to secure outstanding provision in this area.

Trust audits in Safeguarding and SEND SCR, RSE and Equality have provided challenge and action points for further improvements in order that the school achieves excellence in each of these areas.

Student and staff voice activities have been used well to gain important insight into how the school can best support personal development and well-being.

Outcomes from the quality assurance processes have been reported within the SOF on the KPI (Key Performance Indicators),ERR (Education Running Record), in progress on the SDP (School Development Plan) and to the Local Governing Body during Governor meetings.



# Governance

The Local Governing Body has been strengthened by the appointment of Pauline Andre, our new Parent Governor, and Linda Scott and Jane Dunnaway – our two new Community Governors. The new governors have a range of different skills and employment experience which has enhanced the skill set and made for a more balanced skills audit this year.

The Chair of Governors, Richard Kolbe, is stepping down at the end of the academic year and Kevin Lee, the Vice Chair will be stepping into the role of Chair.

Robin Perry has stepped down from his Parent Governor post after eight years of serving on the governing body and a new Parent Governor, Rachel Faul, has been successfully elected and will join the final LGB meeting of the year.

A new training audit has been introduced by the Trust and the LGB have elected Linda Scott as our Link Governor who will coordinate the training feedback for our governors.

All governors have completed an audit against the Ofsted questions for Governors document and any questions RAG rated red or amber have formed an item for discussion or a presentation by staff under the Future Items section on the half termly agenda.

Primary Link Governor Roles have been slightly revised and we have ensured that there is a governor assigned to each of these.

Link Governors have continued to meet with school staff in order to gain a clear picture of provision in their area and to provide strategic challenge in order to strengthen practice. All Link Governor Reports have linked to the School Improvement Plan.



# People First!

During the year, the focus has been very much in investing in staff and encouraging all staff to read research and seek learning opportunities.

All senior leaders in the school have completed NPQSL qualifications, two middle leaders have completed NPQMLs, and a member of staff has successfully completed an NASEND qualification. Teaching Assistants, as part of their Performance Pathways, have completed various courses which will lead to a diverse range of specialism that the school can call upon.

High quality staff CPD has been delivered in- house, by Trust members and by national webinars.

Staff have supported each other through the 'Ears for Peers 'process and staff have access to the Reintegration and Recovery package created by the Trust.





# Financial Leadership

The budget for the year end is in surplus and will be added to last year's reserve of £66,000.

A support staff restructure is planned for next academic year with a view to reducing staffing costs.

The Headteacher now has total transparency with the budget and meets monthly with the Chief Finance & Operations Officer.



# Achievement Through Caring

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