



London Borough of Havering
ENGAYNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs S Sankey: Headteacher
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Dear Parents and Carers,

At this time of year, I am usually preparing to meet with you all and introduce myself at the new intake parents evening that we hold in June. However, these are strange times and we are unable to make our usual arrangements this year. That does not mean that we aren't preparing for the arrival of your little ones and we are keen to welcome you into the Engayne family and start to get to know your children and yourselves.

My name is Julie Deacon and I am privileged to be the Chair of Governors at Engayne. We are a Local Authority maintained school with a traditional governance structure. The Governing board is made up of individuals from all walks of life who want to help our children and young people thrive during their school years and reach their full potential before leaving our care and going out into the wider world. The Governing Board has specific responsibilities that I will briefly explain.

We set and monitor the school budget and ensure that all money received by the school is spent in the best interests of the pupils. Engayne, like all schools, faces challenges due to government funding issues and increased expenses. We are fortunate to have a successful and experienced team behind our financial management and the school budget ensures that the pupils' needs are met whilst maintaining our premises and investing in the ongoing education of the pupils. The school also benefits from an active and highly successful parents' association, the EPFA, which is run by a dedicated group of parents supported by the entire school community. Their donations enable us to enhance our provision and provide extra opportunities for the children. If you can support their ventures in anyway during your child's time at Engayne please do, as you will be directly supporting the well-being and education of the pupils.

The Governors hold the Head Teacher to account for the academic performance of the school, which is measured at a national level through the Early Years assessments, phonic screening, multiplication tests and the SATs examinations. We are very proud of the achievements of our pupils who consistently perform above the national average across all areas. We also closely monitor the progress of pupils as they move through the school using school data and teacher assessments. Each Governor is paired with a cohort of children and we get to know them through our school visits and meetings with the year group teachers. This means that we can understand the needs of the children in that cohort and monitor how they are being supported with their learning and their well-being. We also get the privilege of attending some of their school assemblies and often visit during the school day to see them in class. I am lucky enough to be the reception cohort governor, so I hope to meet all the children once they have settled into school life.

Perhaps most importantly Governors set the ethos of the school. Through our vision statement and the school aims and values, we set ambitious targets for the school to continue to grow and embrace the challenges of the ever-changing world. We believe that we can achieve our vision through the creative ways that we deliver the national curriculum and through the innovative and forward thinking 'Engayne specific' curriculum that enables us to nurture every aspect of our pupils' creativity, individuality and talent.



This year has already thrown so many challenges at us all and we have been forced to adapt to things that we never could have anticipated. When we finally get to meet your little ones, they will have another new challenge and experience to face. Some of them will literally fly through the door and immediately embrace everything that school has to offer. Some may be a little more tentative and others may struggle to settle immediately. As parents you may also have mixed emotions. When your child starts school, it is exciting and sometimes nerve-racking. This year you may find that an already anxious situation has been made worse by recent events. What I can say to you is that the well-being of your child and your whole family are our priority. We want to work with you to offer support and to make the transition to school as smooth as possible. Safeguarding our pupils, their physical and mental well-being and the happiness of our school community is our main concern and you will be supported throughout your time with us. All that we ask is that you work with us and communicate with us continually. Whether that is through supporting your child with their homework and reading at home, telling us about anything that happens outside of school that could affect your child's emotional or physical health or ensuring that your child attends school regularly and on time. We know from experience that working together as a team will give the very best outcome for your child and enable them to fulfil their potential whilst enjoying their time at primary school and making memories to treasure.

I very much look forward to meeting you in due course and in the meantime please stay safe!

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie Deacon', written over a horizontal line.

Julie Deacon