



ELTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Claire Arnold

“LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU”

FRIENDSHIP

TRUST

JUSTICE

ENDURANCE

COMPASSION

KOINONIA

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share with you our recent OFSTED report from the inspection which took place in July – it is attached to this email and will be available on the website. We are so pleased that the values and incredibly special qualities of our school were recognised and acclaimed. During our feedback meeting at the end of the inspection, the inspectors acknowledged the unique character of Elton school. It was described as a ‘beacon’ for other schools in terms of the vision and ambition the leaders have for all the children at Elton, and for the values and qualities it instils in them.

Of course, the staff, children and parents of Elton school are what make it the incredibly unique and wonderful school that it is. We thank you all for your support during the inspection process.

At this point we also wanted to update you on Claire Arnold’s role as Head of Elton School. As you know, we were delighted that Claire agreed to stay on and see the school through the next stage of its journey. Part of Claire’s initial reason for stepping down was because of the pressures on her as Headteacher in a school with a lack of leadership structure, as well as her need for a better work-life balance. For this reason, Claire’s new role will be working four days a week (Tuesday to Friday) with one of those four days being a leadership and management day working from home. To support the leadership structure, Claire will also be developing an internal leadership team. This will be for this academic year in the first instance, and then reviewed depending on the success and logistics of the new arrangement. We are hopeful that this will not only be beneficial to Claire in her role as Head, but will also provide opportunities for internal career development, and continue to offer the best opportunities to the children, staff and parents of Elton School.

As Governors, we are so proud to be part of Elton Church of England School, and we are passionate about securing its future. Future sustainability for small village schools is very difficult, and there are an increasing number of external pressures which no doubt will produce further challenges. However, we completely believe that with vision, creativity, and the belief in the importance of Elton, we can continue to move forwards and influence and inspire future generations of children.

FOES and its many incredible volunteers work tirelessly to fundraise for the school and we are all grateful for the contribution they make to school life. In addition to the fantastic work they do, we will need more support with governance and different voluntary roles over this coming year.

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With immediate effect, we are looking for someone with a financial background (not necessarily a parent) to take on a governor or associate governor finance role. It is quite a commitment, but one that is key to the future of the school. Please contact Claire or myself directly, if this is something you would be interested in (or if you know someone who would).

Additionally, please do look out for any future correspondence about ways in which you, or people you may know, are able to assist in any small way with helping Elton continue to be the 'beacon' that it is. We look forward to sharing the many wonderful experiences and achievements of Elton School over the coming year. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or any of the governors via Kerry in the office.

Many thanks,

Carla Jones
Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body