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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are sure that you have noticed, it has been a busy academic year at Bradfield school with a lot of changes happening since September. As Governors of the school we wanted to take this opportunity to update you on our most recent activity at Bradfield.

Governor Day Visit

On Friday 28th February we were invited into the school for a Governor Day visit. This was a welcome opportunity for us to see in action the policies, strategies and changes that we have been talked through in our Governance meetings. We had the opportunity to observe the provision provided to pupils during lessons and breaks as well as chat with staff and pupils.

Summary

- Four governors visited the school and observed various aspects of daily school life.
- We were impressed by the calm atmosphere, the positive behaviour of students, and the respectful interactions between staff and pupils.
- We recognize that the school is on a journey towards improvement and appreciate the positive progress made thus far.
- We were pleased to see the quality of education policies and strategy we've been talked through in active use in classroom settings
- We will continue to work with school and Trust team to review changes and monitor the impact of ongoing improvements.
- We will proactively work with the school and the Trust to deliver the best possible learning environment for all pupils.

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Behaviour and School Environment

- We all observed a calm and focused atmosphere throughout the school, even during transition times when some year groups were on lunch breaks while others were engaged in lessons.
- The corridors and outdoor spaces were calm and orderly.
- Staff consistently spoke to students in a polite, courteous, and respectful manner, displaying care and understanding for individual students.
- Responses from students were equally calm and respectful

- We saw first-hand, throughout the day, good behaviour from pupils across the school and healthy challenge from staff where needed.
- Several teachers were seen greeting students at the door, creating a positive environment before lessons began, while others had students seated and ready to learn.
- The pupils we spoke to all cited a positive school environment where they felt safe and supported.

General Impressions

Governors were given the autonomy to visit different areas of the school without being accompanied by Senior Leadership Team (SLT) members, enabling us to make unbiased observations, and speak freely and confidentially to staff and pupils alike.

We also had opportunities discuss and see in action:

- Classroom teaching
- SEND provision
- Reading strategies and use of the library
- Attendance processes
- Relationship and behaviour management
- Mock Y11 GCSE exams
- Personal Development
- Staff-Student Interactions
- Personal Development and the LORIC pledge
- Communication and Parental Engagement
- Staff and Workload

We all left the day feeling reassured that the practices observed were in line with what has been shared in Governor meetings.

Please contact us via enquiries@bradfield.sheffield.sch.uk (for attn of: Governors) if you require any further information about our visit, or if you would like to volunteer as a parent governor.

We would like to encourage all parents and carers to support the pupils and school during this period of change as we all try to deliver the best possible learning environment and provision for all pupils to thrive. Simple daily actions we as parents can do: ensuring that the pupils are at school on time, suitably dressed and ready to learn; supporting and engaging with home learning and extracurricular activities; help celebrate the successes of the pupils and staff.

Finally we would like to thank the staff at Bradfield for all their hard work and for facilitating our visit, and of course the pupils who kindly spoke to us during our visit.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Jonathan Rigelsford, Parent Governor; Vivienne Denton, Parent Governor; Paul Jannaway, Chair of Governors; Sue Eglinton, Co-opted Governor