

# Shenstone Lodge School

Executive Head Teacher: Mr Neil Toplass

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[www.shenstonelodge.co.uk](http://www.shenstonelodge.co.uk)



I am writing to you as the Chair of the Governing Body to give you an overview of how the school is doing, to update you on a few matters that I hope are of interest, and on what the priorities are for the coming year.

Firstly, I am delighted to be appointed the new Chair at Shenstone Lodge School, the governing body will continue to work with the Executive Head Teacher, the School Improvement Advisor and the Heads of School to continue making improvements during the current year. Further work will also be done to ensure that the standards that are currently being met within the school are moved forward and that the lessons taught continue to provide stimulated learning to all of the pupils.

One of the most important items that Governors look at is the educational achievement of children at the school across the curriculum. This ties in well with the new OFSTED framework, which puts renewed emphasis on 'quality of education', not just in maths, reading and writing which are the core subjects, but across all of the curriculum. We've been pleased to hear about this shift in emphasis because the school believes strongly that children enjoy and learn from a wide range of topics, and we have consciously tried to avoid a narrow focus at the expense of 'whole child' development and learning.

Attendance continues to be a priority for the school and although good progress is being made to increase attendance, it is still an area of focus. As you would expect student progress is directly linked to attendance. We need your help to ensure that your child attends school on a regular basis.

The residential provision continues to provide a good offering to the children and in the last OFSTED inspection was rated as "Outstanding". An action plan is in place to maintain this high standard for the next inspection. The Governors continue to audit the residential provision to check that the standards are being maintained.

Looking back at 2019 there was a lot of change within the school with the impact of financial pressures instigating a reorganisation within the school. Following the challenges of restructuring and redundancies last year we must thank the staff for rebuilding the team and ensuring that the children get the best education they can. This has been achieved through their continued hard work and commitment to all the children in school. With this now complete it is time to look forward to the new year and new decade at Shenstone, there are now two new larger classrooms which has generated excitement in the classes that will be moving into them.

#### Please reply to:

- **Shenstone Lodge** Birmingham Road, Shenstone, Nr Lichfield, Staffs. WS14 0LB. **Tel:** 01543 480369 **Fax:** 0800 471 5097
- **The Brades Lodge** Lower City Road, Tividale, West Midlands B69 2HF. **Tel:** 0121 552 3125 **Fax:** 0800 471 5097



Also the Academy conversion consultation is underway and once governors make the final decision, hopefully we will be joining The Manor Hall Academy Trust in 2020 which will see a growth plan put in place which will increase our student numbers across both sites.

Finally, governors would be delighted to hear from you and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to help in any way to improve the school and ultimately the children in your care, please let us know.

**Leighton Hughes**

**Chair of Board of Governors**

Ways to contact Governors:

Telephone the School and ask for a call back: 01543 480369

Email: [Governors@shenstonelodge.co.uk](mailto:Governors@shenstonelodge.co.uk)