

Update November 2019: Further to the notes circulated from our FGB 17/9/18 on strategic review, and our subsequent discussions at FGB meetings, I have attempted to summarise our current strategic thinking using the broad headings agreed in September 2018.

### **Governors' strategic overview and key aims<sup>1</sup>**

**Mission statement:** To run a great school with a family feel. We achieve this through our core values of Independence, Resilience and Thinking, underpinned by a belief in a Growth Mindset and supported by the six Golden Rules.

**Vision:** To grow the size of the school so it can sustain a 7 class structure.

**Governance:** To maintain strong governance. To continue to operate as a stand-alone LEA maintained school, drawing upon our excellent CLP links. To work with the wider community (for example the CVA). To further develop governor CPD. To continue our watching brief over the political climate regarding academisation.<sup>2</sup> To review and update all operating policies within an agreed cycle.

**Staffing:** To maintain and develop the quality of teaching and learning. To actively support staff well-being and professional development. To regularly consider succession planning.

**Children:** To be happy, safe, and enjoy coming to school. All to have an equal opportunity to achieve their potential. To have access to a broad and balanced curriculum including a diverse range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities. To achieve good outcomes at all key assessment points.

**Resources and risk:** To run a balanced budget. To upgrade the environment and improve the site wherever possible. To explore whether further economies of scale could be derived from the CLP links. To identify and regularly review all areas of risk. To ensure the website remains up-to-date, relevant and compliant. To research additional funding opportunities.

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<sup>1</sup> Specific actions to support the achievement of these aims will be identified and monitored through the school development plan (SDP), self-evaluation (SEF), risk register and minutes from governor meetings.

<sup>2</sup> The current view of the governors is that there is no obvious benefit to joining a MAT: the only ones active locally are felt to be too large and corporate. This will be kept under review, for example if Crispin was to move strategically from a stand-alone academy to a MAT. The governors would also be open to considering moving to a more formal soft federation with local schools if the opportunity arose, particularly if key staff were to leave.