



## Chair's Report

### Spring Term 2024

Please find below the Spring Term report for Livingstone Primary Governing Body.

#### **WHAT DO WE DO AS GOVERNORS**

The school's Governing Body provides strategic leadership and accountability in the school, both supporting and challenging the school management team. We are tasked with three core functions:

- Setting the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school;
- Holding the Head Teacher to account for the school's educational performance; and
- Ensuring financial resources are well spent.

#### **GOVERNING BODY**

The Governing Body has seen a number of significant changes over the past term. I would like to begin by paying tribute to our outgoing Chair of Governors, Dr Jemma Simpson. Jemma's remarkable understanding of the school and the passion and expertise she brought to the role has been evident throughout my time as Governor. Livingstone has benefited enormously from her wise counsel and practical support and I would like to thank her on behalf of the Governing Body and the entire school for her time and commitment to Livingstone.

Recently we also said goodbye to Ms Janeeta Morar who stepped down at the end of her term as governor. I would like to thank Janeeta for her time and commitment to the role.

We have been very fortunate to welcome three excellent new governors: Ms Amy Leech, Ms Amy Summers and Mr Chris Ingle. Between them they bring a wide range of skills and expertise that I am sure will benefit the school greatly. We look forward to working with them.

Meetings have been held on a twice-termly basis throughout the year and the finance committee meeting three times annually with exceptional meetings when and if required.

In addition to the routine responsibilities for the Governing Body, we have been focussing on the following key areas to support the school in its decision-making and ensuring that Livingstone continues to make the right decisions for the short and long term:

- The continual evolution and change in the wider education and political system and the impact this has on our school
- Ensuring the Governing Body has the right mix of skills and experience so that it can carry out its functions effectively
- Monitoring the ongoing changes to curricular, pastoral and SEN provision.

The finance committee, expertly and ably chaired by Victoria Fish, continues to provide excellent oversight and strategic direction for the school, ensuring that the funding the school receives is wisely and appropriately spent. We have been helped enormously in this endeavour by the diligent and accurate

monitoring of budgets, contracts and day-to-day spending by the office team at Livingstone, and we would like to express our thanks.

It is a common theme of previous chairs reports and I feel it necessary and not at all an obligation to once again thank all of the staff at Livingstone, teaching and non-teaching, for the extraordinary efforts they go to in making sure that pupils and their families are provided with the very best education, support and care during their time at the school. It is very easy to take this incredible hard work for granted: I can assure you that the Governing Body do not, and every meeting provides yet more examples of their efforts in going above and beyond for our school and community. Thank you for this.

As always, we welcome any feedback from parents, carers, staff, pupils and members of the community.