



Welcome to the 2023/2024 academic year, from the ESPS governing body

13th October 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

Welcome to the 2023-2024 academic year at East Sheen Primary School. We hope that the children have settled quickly into their new classes after the summer holidays and have enjoyed the first few weeks of the autumn term. We would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to those families and staff who are new to the school community. ESPS is a happy, vibrant, diverse and inclusive school with a long history of community engagement - we believe this plays a vital role in supporting our children to thrive.

We ended the summer term with the wonderful news that the school had achieved the Eco-Schools Green Flag Award with distinction. This is just recognition of all the work that has gone into threading environmental themes into the curriculum, from Reception to Year 6, which together with the work of the Green Team, has involved the entire school community in environmental activities.

The start of the academic year was equally exciting with all building works complete and a brand-new Astroturf installed. The school looks amazing! We would like to thank all those who were involved over the summer break, ensuring that the children were able to enjoy the whole school site from the very start of term.

As a governing body, we are looking forward to working with our new headship team (Mr Page, Mrs Jones and Mrs Strang) to ensure that ESPS remains a beacon of outstanding education. We were delighted that Ofsted recognised the quality of the education on offer at our school as well as the passion and skill of all members of staff responsible for delivering it. However, we do not intend to stand still and we will continue to strive for improvement in pupil outcomes and experiences. The Parent Satisfaction Survey which is sent out at the end of every academic year is a very important tool for the governing body as it helps inform our school development plan. We have analysed the responses from the Summer 2023 survey and I have pleasure in attaching the summary of our findings and actions that will be taken in response to parental views.

Although we are not currently recruiting, if you are enthusiastic about supporting ESPS and potentially interested in becoming a governor, we would love to hear from you. We would like our board to reflect the diversity of our school community and encourage and welcome enquiries from everyone.

What do governors do?

For those unfamiliar with the work of the governing body, we have three core functions:

1. To establish the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school;
2. To hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and for the performance management of staff; and
3. To oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure that resources are used effectively

Our aim is to ensure that a varied, exciting and relevant education is provided to our pupils and that their wellbeing and happiness is nurtured. We are ambitious for **all** our pupils and constantly ensure that the school's core values are embedded in everything that we do.

The governing body comprises both parent and staff representatives, including the Headteacher, together with a local authority member and co-opted governors from our local community. We are volunteers who are passionate about education and supporting ESPS to continuously excel and as a larger than average governing body, we benefit from significant representation from our immediate and wider community as well as from a very broad range of professional skills and capabilities.

If you would like to find out more about us and what we do, please visit the school website [here](#).

Alternatively, please contact Alex Watson Jones, our Clerk to the Governors, at: clerktogovernors@eastsheen.richmond.sch.uk.

On behalf of all the governors, I wish you a happy and healthy 2023/2024 academic year.

Best wishes,



Nathalie Townley

Chair of Governors
East Sheen Primary School