



# ALPINGTON & BERGH APTON

## Church of England VA Primary School

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**Headteacher** - Mrs Teresa Osborne

### To all parents/guardians

11 July 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

#### **Governing Body Annual Statement 2015/16 and letter of resignation as Chair of Governors**

I have great pleasure in enclosing the Governing Body's Annual Statement for your consideration. It has been another busy year for the Governors with our efforts focused on supporting staff in the development of a new formative assessment system as well as growing our school in a sustainable way. The Governing Body put a premises development strategy in place four years ago which included the plan for a new school hall. I am sure you will agree the new hall has been a huge success. The second step in the premises development plan is the refurbishment of the old hall which will take place during the summer holidays. Staff and Governors are both excited about the newly enhanced teaching space, which the old hall will offer.

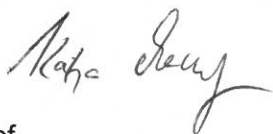
My four year term as a Governor is coming to an end I have decided to resign from the Chair role and step down as a Governor. This has not been an easy decision as it has been a huge privilege to serve this school, its pupils and its wider community. My special thanks go to all the staff who have the highest professional standards and work with utmost dedication. They have helped pupils make huge progress and achieve academic results over the recent years which are truly 'outstanding'. My thanks go also to the wonderful team of Governors who I have worked with over the last four years. This Governing Body has made a real impact and contributed to improve this school in many ways. I would like to give special thanks to Kerrie Hamilton and Vivienne King who after 8 years as committed Governors will sadly also stand down from the Governing Body.

The Governing Body has considered succession planning very carefully in the last year. We have been able to recruit three new Governors who have already taken on responsibilities in the last month and are ready to step up. As the expectations from the Government on Governors are ever increasing, many Governing Bodies are adapting and looking at different ways how they can manage the ever increasing workload effectively and build capacity across the Governing Body.

Our Governing Body has therefore decided to adopt a more collaborative approach and model to manage the Chair role and responsibilities for the next year. Our very experienced Vice-Chair, Michael Hibbin will be Chair of Governors for the coming months but will then be working with Michala Warner and Joy Shreeve as a Chair team.

Alpington and Bergh Apton Primary School is a very special school. Not just because of its staff and Governors, but because of an extraordinarily committed community of parents who help at events, support the fundraising efforts of the Friends and attending the many social occasions. My final thanks will therefore go to you – thank you for helping to make this a happy school in which children can thrive to become confident, caring and aspiring individuals.

With kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katja Mahnkopf', written in a cursive style.

Katja Mahnkopf  
Chair of Governors

*Encl: Governing Body Annual Statement 2015/2016*