



### Introduction from the Chair

I am so pleased to be able to share this report with you. A lot of governor work happens behind the scenes and is not always visible. This report is one way we can keep you informed of the work we are doing.

One of our priorities is community strength, and this year we have really seen our community flourish, with so many positive events and initiatives such as the school street trial, the return of Earth Hour and the new weekly Bike Train.

The PTA have been organising the Winter and Summer Fairs and also created opportunities to collect and pass on good quality items of uniform and winter coats, reducing costs for our families and reusing clothes that may otherwise go to waste. Miss Armstrong's half marathon was a highlight with pupils and teachers running alongside and raising over £1800 to support live theatre opportunities for our children.

As well as bringing people together, all of these activities support our children's personal development enabling them to become well-informed and responsible citizens.

And it was great to hear Carys (Y6) and Tito (Y5) talking to Nicky Campbell on Radio 5 Live about watching the world cup at school. What a great example of Manley Park children confidently articulating their considered views.

The support and efforts of everyone make all of this possible, from our pupils and staff, our families and beyond including local residents, Walk Ride Whalley Range, the local authority

and Transport for Greater Manchester. Thank you to everyone for making Manley Park the incredible community it is.

There have also been challenges this year. In particular the ongoing dispute between the teaching unions and government means that strikes continue. I know every teacher takes their personal decision very seriously. Thank you for the support you have shown to all staff during these challenging times.

The theme for this half term is 'aspirations' looking at what will change and where we are heading.

To our Year 6 children and families, whether you joined us more recently, or way back when... we hope you all have fond memories to take with you on your next journey. We wish you every happiness and success in the future, however that looks for you.

To the staff who are moving on, we thank them for their passion and commitment to all of our families, and wish them all the best in their next chapters.

As we prepare to welcome new children, families and staff in September, I have every confidence our community will continue to grow together.

A special 'Above and Beyond' mention must go to Miss Henderson and Miss Avari, who this month celebrate 25 years at Manley Park. They started here together as newly qualified teachers, and even taught some of our current parents! I'm sure you will join us in thanking them for their dedication, passion and ambition for our whole community.

Wishing you all a restful summer break.

**Vibeke Dawes - Chair of Governors**

## 2022/23 Governor Highlights

- Last autumn we held a governor team day, which included lunch with the children. It was inspiring to hear them talk about their ambitions for the future and how central the idea of living the Manley Park values is to them.
- We reviewed our commitments to the role to give our practical support in the most effective way. These are our promises as a governing body to the whole school community and guide the way that we work. We also identified the strategic priorities that we need to focus on to ensure the school achieves its vision. These will guide our work plan for the next year.
- We paid particular attention this year to understanding parent/carer, staff and pupil voice. This helps to inform decision making, policy development and supporting the school to reflect on strengths and areas for improvement.
- The resources committee focuses on value for money. This year we reviewed the cleaning contract and tender evaluations for the work on the bungalow at Juniors. Once finished, the bungalow will provide dedicated meeting space for adults within the school day meaning spaces within the main building are prioritised for the children.
- Updated lettings policies mean the school can open its spaces up to the community while also bringing in additional funds
- The curriculum committee has been looking at inclusion and how the school supports all children to achieve academically. As well as attainment data, the committee looked at the systems in place for all children to ensure

they are clear and understood by all staff. The school's curriculum information is on the website with intent, impact and implementation methods, as well as a detailed curriculum overview for each subject.

- We continue to monitor staff well-being. Teacher workload is often discussed in the media, and although our teachers do find the workload a challenge, all staff report high levels of support in place to help them manage this.
- We defined our key equality objectives for our children, staff and families. These are published in the equality policy on the website with progress updated annually.
- In consultation with our families, staff and pupils we developed the Manley Park behaviour principles. These form part of a whole school approach to behaviour, and guide policy and everyday practice

## 2023/24 Looking ahead

- Use our strategic priorities to really focus on what is important and how the school is working towards its vision
- Monitor progress against the school's Equality Objectives
- Continue to listen to staff, pupil and parent/carer voice
- Ensure the development of our buildings, including the bungalow and library projects, support our vision and provide an effective use of resources
- Support the school to reduce our carbon footprint
- Recruit new governors to both parent and co-opted governor roles

## Governing Body Overview

### Our board has three core functions:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The school's website lists all governors, their attendance at meetings and committee membership.

### Our strategic focus (guiding our work plan):

- Community strength and cohesion
- Academic achievement, including adjustments, adaptations & reflecting pandemic recovery
- Strong financial management
- Staff well-being, development and performance management
- The whole child view

### Our commitment to the school (the way we work):

- We will support the school to build close connections across our community
- We will use our broad range of skills from all our different backgrounds to positively impact on school improvement
- We will be evidence led and take a strengths based approach

## Parent governor vacancies

In the autumn term we will be looking for new parent governors to join us. Parent governors are elected by our parent/carers community. We will share how you can nominate yourself in the new school year.

Our final meeting of this year is at 6.30pm on Wednesday 12th July, at the junior site. Anyone considering putting themselves forward for a parent governor role is welcome to attend part of that meeting as an observer. If you would like to come along, or just want an informal chat about the role, please email [communication@manleypark.com](mailto:communication@manleypark.com) with 'parent governor' in the subject line and your contact details and we'll get in touch.

## Other ways to get involved and support the school

There are many other ways you can support the school. If the governing board does not appeal, you can join the PTA to help with events and fundraising or volunteer to support the Bike Train or school street. Some of our parents are reading volunteers.

Everything helps from buying raffle tickets, donating to the library fundraiser and bringing in cakes for bake sales. Or you can simply reach out to the school if you think you have skills they could use or a brilliant idea.

And of course hearing your voices and opinions is critical to the success of the school. Please do take the opportunity to give feedback with your green next steps as well as your golden moments. Your insight is invaluable.