



**VICTORY HEIGHTS
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
NURTURE • CHALLENGE • EXCEL

THE VOICE

Governors Supplement



Sasha Crabb
Principal
School Improvement

The Board of Governors at VHPS is committed to sustained improvement. We have forensically analysed the areas of development set out from the last DSIB inspection report and calmly assessed how to improve smartly. The collaborative approach to the teaching and learning of Arabic and Islamic, integration of Sustainable initiatives, in depth challenge for writing opportunities and the fostering of high quality Inclusion provision have been woven into our weekly agendas with seamless precision. We evaluate our success based upon the impact of these areas on our children. Their feedback is important to us. Through my individual class Pupil Progress meetings, all 43 classes, all 1006 children are discussed. The impact of the areas of development from their perspectives is authentic. The unique nature of our governing body is that turnaround time is speedy. Processes do not cause unnecessary barriers at VHPS. The board's drive and capacity for improvement is fundamentally based on the children.



David Flint
Governor for Arabic Studies

I had the pleasure to again visit VHPS with the focus on the teaching of Arabic and gain a synopsis on how plans to ensure consistency and a common standard of classroom practice and overall learning were progressing. From the classes visited, it was clearly evident that the approach of the HoD and SLT was having effect although the journey was still ongoing.

There were clear consistencies between most classes with clear links in practice and outcomes witnessed. Some classes were still in need of further polish and direction for the teachers in order to ensure that all aspects of consistency and required practice were fully embraced. This is ongoing with strategies in place to ensure further CPD and professional guidance is provided for the colleagues concerned. A further visit towards the end of Term 2 will serve as a timely synopsis to establish progress made.

THE VOICE



Dominique Rodgers

Governor for Staff Wellbeing

Working alongside Hayley Stewart and Sasha Crabb, I have reviewed the feedback from the most recent Staff Wellbeing Survey and am pleased to say that of the 70 staff that completed the survey, 90% rate their overall wellbeing as 3 out of 5. The focus for this upcoming term, in respect of Teaching and Learning, involves meeting with VHPS Middle Leaders and working with them to advance both their own personal wellbeing and that of the staff under their care. A briefing and follow-up meeting has been timetabled to share experiences, identify needs, celebrate successes and detail team aims for the term. This will provide opportunities to support the Middle Leadership Team in an open forum. Measures have been put in place to provide additional support to allow Leaders to partake in learning walks, build relationships, both professionally and academically within teams and discuss any quick-fixes. The continuity of empowerment with integrity and unity remains key.



Marion Sinclair

Governor for Teaching
and Learning

During a recent visit to Foundation Stage I was met by FS1 Red who engaged me for much of the morning on their clue finding mission for their treasure. The language and explanations used by the children were well-developed, engaging and creative. Foundation stage have been working to develop oracy and the impact was seen (or heard) throughout the whole Foundation Phase.

In line with inspection recommendations fine motor skills experiences are prevalent throughout in developing skills for handwriting. The progress in FS2 has been very good since the beginning of term 1. The Arabic Language Programme is developing well. In supporting wellbeing children are becoming familiar in describing their feelings through language.

Foundation Stage is a busy, engaging, happy and challenging environment which maintains its outstanding status.

On other previous visits in term 1, I reviewed the School Central Register with Ms Huda as part of the Safeguarding Policy, Ms Sasha (Principal) shared her ideas on 'what next' for the year. 'Working smarter' has been a key emphasis and has further supported teacher wellbeing through the School Wellbeing Charter.

THE VOICE



Natasha Smart
Governor for Safeguarding

As a Governor and Safeguarding Lead in the Foundation Stage, I witness the school's unwavering commitment to prioritising all aspects of safeguarding, spanning from policy to daily practices. In the current academic year, two new safeguarding leads, myself included, have undergone Level 3 training. The school demonstrates exceptional dedication to safeguarding and wellbeing, evident in assigning a staff member whose sole role is Pastoral Lead. With support from the governing body and Sasha Crab, the impact of our focus on wellbeing is clear, from physical improvements to the school grounds to active participation in Wellbeing Wednesday. The introduction of Komodo and roll out of 'Zones of Regulation' supports teachers and the Pastoral Lead in identifying children whose wellbeing may be at risk. The Safeguarding team convenes weekly to discuss any safeguarding concerns and agree on necessary actions. Working alongside me as the Governor, the team has regularly reviewed policies in light of new legislation, making required adjustments and enhancing reporting and information gathering systems. Furthermore, IT filtering systems have undergone scrutiny, and the school perimeter boundaries have been reinforced on both sites. We continue to ensure the value of Integrity is woven throughout all aspects of Safeguarding and Wellbeing.



Jolene Palmer
Governor for Inclusion

Jolene has recently joined the VHPS board -of Governors replacing Dr Andy Dalziell who is now focusing on his academic research at the University of Strathclyde. in Scotland Jolene already visits Victory Heights regularly with up to 3 visits per month.

Having known VHPS over the last 5 years working with children and parents. Jolene is well aware of the community and values.

What are your aims and hopes for your role for the rest of the academic year ? - I look forward to supporting Michelle as Inclusion Champion in quality first teaching and as well as the Inclusion team, children, teachers and parents.

THE VOICE



Sandra Al Mheiri

Governor for Islamic Studies

During my recent visits to the Islamic department at our school, I have been thoroughly impressed by the dedication and passion displayed by both students and faculty. The vibrant atmosphere reflects a commitment to fostering a comprehensive understanding of Islamic studies. Engaging discussions, interactive lessons, and a strong sense of community prevail in this department. I am delighted to share that we have added significant value by organizing enriching Islamic trips for our students, providing them with practical exposure to the cultural and historical aspects of Islam. Additionally, our latest investment, the "Islamic Treasure" online program, is an excellent initiative aimed at enhancing the learning experience. This interactive app offers a dynamic platform for children to explore and engage with Islamic teachings, further enriching their educational journey. As a governor, witnessing these innovative approaches underscores our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals within the Islamic department.

Moving forward, we are committed to building upon the successes of the Islamic department. Our next steps include continuous collaboration with the department in ensuring it remains dynamic and responsive while the children continue to grow and learn.



Amit Kothari

Governor of Information
Technology

My recent visit, was truly enlightening to observe the strides the school has taken in both academic and non-academic areas. The word that comes to mind is "thoughtful" when considering the spaces and their utilization for the benefit of the children. The top-notch resources are being utilized to their fullest potential.

I am highly pleased to witness the innovative approaches being employed to push the boundaries within certain areas of the curriculum, notably the impressive progress in STEAM. The forward-thinking ideas regarding the integration of AI and ML are particularly exciting.

The Arabic and Islamic departments - Cultural Centre were notably outstanding. Looking ahead, I am enthusiastic about contributing to further technological advancements that will benefit both our students and staff moving forward.

THE VOICE



Dinesh Kothari

Chairman

Student Well-Being Governor

Following a fruitful student council meeting focused on overall well-being, I'm pleased to announce our commitment to invest in the Arabic and Islamic sections of our curriculum. This strategic decision recognizes the cultural diversity within our student body and aims to deepen understanding in these areas.

Concurrently, we are dedicated to enhancing the general welfare of our students, addressing mental, emotional, and physical health. This comprehensive approach ensures a nurturing and empowering environment. The targeted investment underscores our commitment to a well-rounded education, fostering cultural appreciation. I am confident these initiatives will positively impact both academic and cultural aspects, contributing to a thriving school experience.