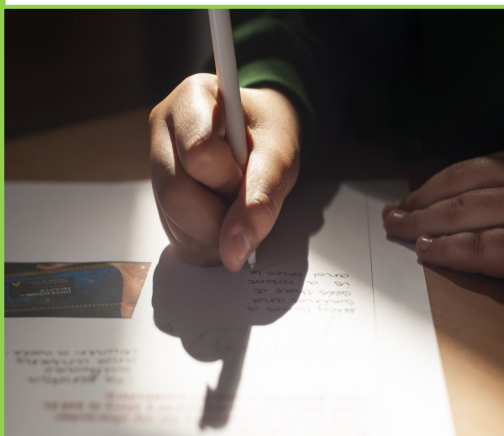


# Governor Update

## Spring 2020

### TERMLY UPDATE

This academic year has so far been busy for Viridis Schools. Changes in the leadership of the schools saw Ms Davie take responsibility as Executive Headteacher for all three schools in the Autumn Term. We are fortunate to have an exceptionally dedicated staffing team who work hard to ensure our pupils make excellent progress and children are confident in articulating their responsibility for their learning as well as explaining their understanding of new knowledge. Pupils across all three schools continue to achieve significantly above national averages by the end of Key Stage Two which is an exceptional achievement.



Both Hoxton Garden and Southwold Schools received Ofsted inspections in the Autumn Term. Our robust curriculum and the enrichment opportunities that children receive were highly praised in both inspections in addition to the exceptional early reading provision, the positive ethos of the schools, the focus on parental engagement and the consideration given to teacher well being. As Governors our role is to act as 'critical friends' and we were called on to meet with inspectors and explain our role in supporting the strategic direction of the school. We were extremely proud of the outcomes of the inspections, Southwold achieved the 'outstanding' and Hoxton Garden continues as a securely 'good' school.

### GOVERNOR VISIT MORNINGS

Each term Governors visit during the school day and look at different areas of the curriculum in action. Governors visit classrooms, meet with children and listen to the work that leaders

are doing to ensure continued high standards for the children. So far this year Governors have met with pupils at Southwold to learn about early reading and visited Hoxton Garden to learn about the maths progression. Our visit to Orchard School is planned for the summer term.



## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN TALKING ABOUT?

The full Governing Body meets three times a year and sub-committees meet three times a year. In each meeting we focus on school performance, school development, staffing / recruitment, behaviour / safeguarding, parental engagement and focus areas of the curriculum. The Headteachers create a termly report for us in order to present key data and information. This year we have reviewed the pupil premium statement and the sports funding statement including the interventions in place to support pupils. We are pleased to see the uptake of the home learning programmes Matheletics and Times Table Rock Stars are well received by pupils and parents and used successfully to support home learning. We have overseen the continued investment in high quality reading texts for children including the introduction of the Hackney Reading Road Map for Years Five and Six which ensures sustained reading across a range of genres.



The schools continue to strive for a number of awards and have been successful in being accredited parent partnership awards, the anti bullying quality mark and the inclusion quality mark amongst others. We have reviewed reports and discussed the next awards the schools are focussing on.



We continue to carefully watch our school budgets to make sure that we can continue to invest in staffing including teaching assistants in each class supporting the teacher and offering additional speech and language support and therapeutic support to children.

## WHO ARE WE? GOVERNOR PORTRAITS



**Sara Walsingham is a co-opted Governor** Sara has worked in Hackney education for over 20 years. She has excellent communication skills and is the main schools finance expert in Hackney Council. She has knowledge and understanding of the role of the governing body having served as a clerk several years ago. She has excellent general knowledge of education and schools.

**Laura Theobald is a co-opted Governor** Laura was a Teach First secondary school English teacher before becoming a People and Change consultant, working with a number of UK banks to implement new systems, processes or organisational structures. Laura now works at a smaller UK Fintech who specialise in proving finance to small businesses in the UK. She is responsible for a team of project managers who are working to deliver new lending products and improved tech to support the company's planned growth.



**Orchard**  
Primary School

**Southwold**  
Primary School



**Hoxton Garden**  
Primary School

**Viridis**  
Schools

