



27th September 2018

Dear Parents

Now that the new school year is underway I would like to take the opportunity to welcome our new Year 7 parents and welcome back everyone else. This is the time of year I write to you to update you on the work of the Governors at The Ashcombe.

I am now starting my fourth year as Chair and am looking forward once more to taking the school forward in close collaboration with the Governors and all our staff.

The Governing Body has been closely involved in the transition at the top of the school and has been supportive of the steps taken for Mr Blow to pass over the day-to-day running to Mr Panting and Mrs Reed, whilst he continues being in school full time and working hard on the Head's many financial and legal responsibilities. It has also been most encouraging to see other members of staff step forward to take on increased responsibility at all levels, undergoing a rigorous process of application and interview. It is a measure of the effort the school puts into developing staff that we have been in a position to undertake this transition which gives us the best of continuity and fresh opportunity.

Governors will be busy this term with two Full Governing Body meetings, five committee meetings, training and numerous visits to school, including a meeting with all new staff to make sure they are settling in well.

We will also be undertaking a detailed analysis of the exam results from the summer. Our GCSE and A Level results were good and consistent and reflect the high standards we set at the school. All our students deserve great credit for their achievements in the face of new exams. I would also commend all our staff for their success in coping with the stress and disruption caused by the exam reforms.

The Governing Body is keen to keep in contact with you, and to help with this we have a dedicated email address (governors@ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk).

We also have our own section on the school website where you can see more about our duties, responsibilities, skills and photos (> About the School > Governing Body).

I am very grateful to all my Governing Body colleagues for all the time they give freely to the school and we will all be working hard to maintain our core values of academic achievement for all pupils and a commitment to a broad and balanced education, with exceptional pastoral care and an inclusive and outward-looking approach.

With best wishes

Terry McDonald
Chair of Governors

Therfield School, The Ashcombe School and The Warwick School have formed, and are part of, South East Surrey Schools Education Trust (SESSET), a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 10479401. The registered address is The Ashcombe School, Ashcombe Road, Dorking Surrey, RH4 1LY.