



July 2019 Message from the Chair of the Interim Academy Board (IAB)



Judith Johnson

Independent Chair of the Interim Academy Board (IAB)
St. Margaret Clitherow Primary School

We are delighted that the report from our recent full Ofsted Inspection has come out before the end of term and the children leave for the summer break.

The report recognises that 'standards have improved significantly since the previous inspection and continue to rise'. Mrs Gill is preparing a summary of the 2019 results which we are pleased about in terms of both the achievements and the progress made by the children.

It was a challenge facing a full Ofsted so near the end of term, but the staff rose to this challenge well and did us proud in terms of their responses. We are satisfied that the hard work has been recognised over the last two years, and despite the tight budget and the staffing challenges we have faced, pleased that the school has been brought out of the Special Measures category and has secured Grade 2 (Good) in two important areas of our work – Leadership & Management and Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare.

The inspector and the report recognises many strengths now in the school and part of the reason why there are not more Grade 2 judgements across all the area in the Ofsted Framework is simply that they just needed more time to have become embedded and to show the impact that we can see is there in its early stages.

Our Action Plan now will cover a two-year period and is designed to secure the next improved judgment up the Ofsted scale - we are already well underway with that goal. Ofsted will not monitor us now for a clear two-year period and the monitoring by the CAST Trust had already reduced because of the progress the school has made. 'Leaders demonstrate that the additional support from the trust is no longer necessary. This is because the school is improving rapidly'.

We are still confident that we can establish our Local Governing Board (LGB) now and have a potential new Chair of the LGB offering her services for the year ahead.

Hopefully members of the LGB will join the IAB at the next meeting in late September and we can start the handover process. Mrs Gill will be re-sending out the request for two parent Governor representatives on the LGB as soon as possible and we really hope we can attract two parents who have been part of the journey so far (or parents of new pupils ?) and who are supportive of the school to join us on the next stage of the journey.

Have great summer breaks with your children and for those of you with children in Year 6 – thank you for your time with our school and good luck with the next stage of their education.

Judith