



Local Academy Committee Newsletter

December 2022

Be the best you can be; together we grow from acorns to oaks, flourishing in God's love.

What is the Local Academy Committee?

Bream School is part of the Severn Federation Academy Trust. Each school in the Trust has a Local Academy Committee (LAC), which fulfils a similar role to a governing board. The LAC's purpose is to maintain strong oversight of the educational standards and Christian ethos of the school.

You can find out more about the members of the LAC and what we do on the school website: <https://www.breamcofe.co.uk/local-academy-committee/>.

Results of the Parent Governor elections

Earlier this term we ran an election for a second parent member. There was a single nomination, and we are pleased to announce that Kate Evans has been elected. Kate has a son in year 5 and is also a parent governor at Dean Academy.

Here Kate introduces herself:

I grew up in Coleford and love the Forest. Nine years ago, my husband and I decided to move back to the Forest with our six boys. We home educated our children for nine years throughout their primary school education, until they decided to go to secondary school. Our youngest son asked if he could go to primary school last summer and started at Bream school in Year 4 at the end of the summer term and has been loving his experience here.

I have been a governor at The Dean Academy for the past 5 years and am currently vice chair. I wanted to be a part of my sons' educations, so when the role of parent governor came up at Bream I knew I wanted to be on the same journey for my youngest son as well. I am a piano teacher and have been teaching for the last 24 years.

I currently teach piano privately and at The Dean Academy and I love my job. Being an educator, I strive to bring the best education to all students I come in contact with. Being a governor I'm glad I get the opportunity to make suggestions and support the excellent teaching that's currently happening in Bream School.



Whilst we are fortunate to have a full complement of committee members at present, we are able to expand our membership to help with succession planning for key roles. If you are interested in joining the LAC or if you'd like to come and observe a LAC meeting to see what is involved, please contact Lorna Theophilus, Chair of the LAC, on ltheophilusACM@bream.gloucs.sch.uk.

Results of the Pupil Survey

Last month the school surveyed all the children about their school experience. The results were very encouraging with very few children expressing any concerns about their happiness at school and the majority were very positive about their learning. The children also made some lovely comments.

*Teachers and
TAs are kind*

*School takes
care of us*

What do you like about our school? Teachers and TAs are kind, learning new sounds, friends/playground/break, we have a library, it is a school which loves God and school takes care of us and never lets anyone get hurt.

What do we do best at school? Looking after each other, taking care of each other, helping each other, we have great teachers, teaching challenging us, Maths, and encouraging us to try new things.

How can we make our school better? More toys, bigger infant playground, more shelter to sit under when it's wet, chilling out areas outside/quiet area and more playground equipment.

*Encouraging us
to try new things*

Mr Cox will be working with the children on the School Council to see how these suggestions can be taken forward in the next few months.

School Priorities

As part of monitoring standards, the LAC holds school leaders to account for progress against the School Improvement Plan. The priorities in the School Improvement Plan for 2022/23 are:

1. Attendance. To improve the whole school attendance and to tackle all persistent absences.
2. Teaching and Learning. To ensure the standards and quality of teaching and learning are good throughout the school.
3. Disadvantaged/Pupil Premium. To make a positive difference for our disadvantaged children in school.
4. SEND and Inclusion. To ensure that the needs of all children are met, especially those with SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities).
5. Subject Leadership. To improve the capacity of leadership throughout the school.
6. Assessment. To ensure that we have a whole school approach to data and assessment and have fully implemented our new Tracking system.

The LAC is particularly focusing on monitoring attendance at the moment. Good attendance is vital to getting a good education and, as I'm sure most parents would agree, this is especially important after the disruption caused by COVID over the last few years.

New Policies

The Local Academy Committee has recently adopted a number of new policies. All school level policies can be found on the school website here, along with a link to the Trust level policies:

<https://bream-church-of-england-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/policies/>.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



If you have any comments on this newsletter or any questions about the LAC please contact Lorna Theophilus on Chair of the LAC, on ltheophilusACM@bream.gloucs.sch.uk.