



**A note from the chair of governors**

**End of 2022-23 school year letter.**

As we approach the end of the school year the governors wish to share their appreciation of all the work done by the schools' leadership, staff, and children at Tibshelf Infant and Nursery and Town End Junior Schools.

It has been a huge year, with lots of changes but everyone has stepped up to provide good, continuous education for the children. We are particularly proud that Tibshelf Infant and nursery school received a 'good' grade in their OFSTED in December 2022. More recently Town End Juniors received a platinum award for sports excellence from 'school games', a collaboration of national sporting bodies. We are led to believe we are one of the few in the county to achieve this accolade!

We started the school year as a collaboration and in January 2023 moved to federate the two schools. Simultaneously we appointed a new Executive Headteacher and built a new senior leadership team with Heads of Schools for both schools. Mrs Rachel Boswell became our executive head, Mrs Lea Alton head of school at Tibshelf infants and nursery and Mr Tom Worrell head of school at Town End Juniors. Mr Chris Cafferty became business manager for both schools.

Becoming a federation meant the identities and budgets of the 2 schools remained in tack, with senior leadership over both schools. We believe that this is the best model of education we can offer primary aged children in Tibshelf. Becoming a federation means consistent approaches in learning for children across the two schools and a much more holistic approach to supporting families. Staff have joined together to discuss shared priorities and transitions in subject areas and attended training together as a federation.

In January 2023 the previous schools governing bodies were disbanded, and one Federation Governing Board was established. The governing board now has two sub-committees which monitors resources the school needs and the teaching and learning children experience. Just like the schools, the governors are on a journey to establish best practice but take very seriously their role as a support and critical friend to the school. The governing board currently has a vacancy for a parent governor, and others are always welcome to apply to be coopted. More details will follow.

School life at Tibshelf is so much more than academic learning. We try to provide support for you as a family, we have out of school clubs, food bank and uniform assistance to name a few. Friends of the school do a great job fundraising to provide lots of extras for the children and we couldn't do without our volunteers- thank you all.

So, the best of luck to our year 6's as they make their life transition to secondary school and welcome to our new children starting out in nursery or reception.

For everyone - Have a wonderful summer break!

Karen Waring

Chair of Governors. Tibshelf Schools Federation.