

# Vision and Values

## *Dear Parents and Carers,*

We hope you are all enjoying the summer term and the many activities taking place around the school. As you know, a number of governors are fellow parents and we have really enjoyed seeing the Infants dancing at the sponsored bop, create beautiful pictures for the Parents' Association Art Gallery, and have fun at the Summer Fete! The children's contributions for the decorated plates were amazing.

The Governing Body would like to take this opportunity to share our updated Vision Statement and Aims and Objectives. These inform the ethos of the school and the strategic direction of governors. If you would like to know more about the work of governors there is information on the school website at <http://www.alderton-inf.essex.sch.uk/governors.htm>

## **Vision Statement**

Our vision is to be at the cutting edge of early years and infant education, to develop children to be excited by the challenge of learning, and achieve well both in their academic and personal development, to the satisfaction of parents and carers.

## **Aims and Objectives**

Committed and enthusiastic staff, school leaders and governors:

Value and nurture each child as a unique individual in a happy, caring community

Provide the best possible opportunities in a broad and balanced curriculum both within and beyond the classroom

Set learning goals that are appropriate and challenging to each child, regardless of their race, gender or ability

Appreciate the vital role that parents/carers play in their child's education and continue to develop ever-stronger partnerships with them

Ensure that children feel safe and confident in a culture built on respect for self, others and the environment

Help children to become independent, adaptable and resilient learners with the potential to be responsible citizens in a diverse and rapidly changing world

Promote a learning culture in which all members of the school community (children and adults) expect to continuously develop and improve

## **Parent Questionnaire**

Thank you for the helpful and thoughtful responses we received to the Parent Questionnaire sent out in March. We appreciate the time taken and it was a pleasure to see that many of you had discussed the questions with your child(ren) and had positive stories to tell about life in the school.

The full breakdown of responses (with any identifying features / personal statements removed) is available on the school website but a brief summary of key issues follows.

**Meetings:** Governors have noted the desire for some information meetings to be held earlier in the year and this will be taken into account when timetabling future sessions. We will also ensure that times of meetings will vary

to take account of those who would find it easier to attend in the evening or at the end of the day. Attendance will be carefully monitored to inform planning.

**Dinners:** Feedback on school dinners has been noted and will be fed back to the relevant team at Essex County Council – we have particularly noted comments regarding allergies. Governors were intrigued regarding the dislike of “hunter's chicken” – we discussed it and those with children have decided that too much sauce could be an issue for some and we will see if there is a solution.

**Parking:** Governors are working closely with local councillors and residents regarding the dangerous and inconsiderate parking and driving outside the school. Your comments have been collated and will be used in future discussions. Sadly, we do not have any legal jurisdiction outside the school gates so are dependent on the council and highways team for permanent solutions – but as it is our parents who are causing many of the problems we need those who drive to think about the journeys they make!

## **Behaviour outside the school:**

We also need you all to be considerate of others during the drop off and collection periods. Children should be encouraged to respect the signs and stay off the very steep banks. Children also need to be mindful of others if using scooters and bikes – it is good to see so many wearing helmets but speeding down the hill can be dangerous and we would hate to see anyone injured. You are also reminded that dogs are not allowed on the school premises even if on a lead or in your arms.

**Smoking:** There are also many comments asking us to stop parents standing smoking outside the school. Sadly this is something we are unable to do but we would respectfully ask parents not to. It is deeply unpleasant for all those walking past and, as both schools get bigger, makes it harder for people to move around on the pavements.

We would like to end on a positive note and share a response to “what does your child enjoy about school” but please do see the website for all your answers:

“Her teacher, her friends and her achievements and praise she gets for small to large efforts. She is never made to feel self-conscious about anything and (is) supported 1000%”

Governors were also amused to hear that “Mrs Dalby is known as the boss by the children”.

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Finally we would like to thank everyone who helps make the Alderton Infant School a positive place for the children, especially the staff who have worked so hard in implementing the many recent changes made to the national curriculum and the way children are assessed and safeguarded.

Wishing you all a lovely summer holiday. Good luck to the Year 2 pupils who are sadly leaving us and we look forward to seeing everyone else on 5th September 2016.

Thank you  
**The Governing Board**