

### The Governing Body of Foreland Fields School

# Our Mission +++ Our Strategy +++ Our Community +++ Our Goals

Our School moved to a new site in February 2017 after a decade of fighting for a new building. It has been designed for 200 pupils and a nursery. We have new facilities that has enabled us to broaden the range of learning activities that our pupils can enjoy. These range from a Hydro Therapy Pool, a Science Room, Arts and Pottery Facilities to an all-weather outdoor area for outdoor sports and constructive play. The school now offers a variety of lunch and after school clubs

Our pupils deserve more in terms of education and support. We are responding to pupils needs. We are determined to deliver more. KCC asked us if we would expand our range of pupils to include those that are visually impaired. We are proud of our achievement in this respect. We are offering some of our pupils a range of additional learning activities from Forest School to enterprise activities and work related activities.

#### We believe in:

- · Maximising the well-being of our pupils,
- Raising their self-esteem
- Increasing their independence by enriching their skills
- Putting them first

We believe that our pupils have the right to be educated in a safe and secure environment. The Governing Body takes our responsibilities very seriously so that these goals are achieved. We fully support the ethos of our School.

This new School has been built due to the great efforts put in by our Headteacher Adrian Mount, his two predecessors, Governors (most noticeable Tina Fullick who joined us in 2007) and of course many others from KCC and our School. A special thank you goes to Shelley Furlong who spent hour upon hour making sure that the new building was fit for purpose. The Governors would like to thanks everyone for their support and for Kent County Council for placing the contract with Kier.

We still have work to complete as, due to financial constraints, we moved without a new playground. With the support of fund raisers, a new playground will be installed for the Nursery and Infants over the summer holidays ready for September 2017.

This leaves the School with three key longer term capital objectives:

1) Play Ground Equipment for all pupils.

- 2) A Sports Ground with changing facilities suitable for our pupils.
- 3) An Out Door Learning Facility that will include a horticultural facility and woodland.

## Clearly we need to find alternative sources of finance.

#### MISSION STATEMENT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Our School needs to be both a place and a set of partnerships between ourselves and other community resources. The School is focused on providing a safe environment and an education for our pupils. We believe that an integrated approach to learning, facilitated with key health and social services, youth and community development agencies and with community engagement leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities.

We want our school to become a Community Centre that is the centre of the community and is open to everyone – all day, every day, evenings and weekends.

Using our school as a hub we aim to bring together many partners to offer a range of supports and opportunities to our pupils and families and carers. This philosophy will enable our pupils to improve their learning and social integration. We aim not only for our pupils to become actively involved in the learning and integration within our community; in addition we want to encourage families and carers to be increasingly involved with their children's education.

#### What does this mean in practise?



**FUND RAISER:** The School will employ a Fund Raiser to raise funds for both Capital and Revenue Projects. We intend to maximise our revenues for the benefit of all pupils and we will work in partnership with the School's Charitable Trust.

GOVERNOR INPUT AND SKILLS MATRIX: Each year we conduct a Skills Matrix. We have a very broad range of skills from education, business and safeguarding. This skill base is widening with additional Governors bringing in health and safety and financial / accountancy skills. We are in the process

of changing our Instrument of Government or our "constitution" to allow even more Governors to join us! We aim to recruit new Governors that have links with the local Community. The Governing Body does have a major impact upon the life of the School. We give more than the equivalent of a full time employee in terms of time to the School. We set the strategic direction of the School and hold the Headteacher to account.



**INCOME FROM LETTINGS.** Our new site offes new income generating opportunities. Once the Sports and Horticulture Facilities are open this will further this potential. We aim to market these facilities to the local community and also other Special Schools who could benefit from our facilities.



USE OF VOLUNTEERS WITH IN THE SCHOOL. Volunteers do have a place in our school, not just in the traditional areas such as the class room but also in other parts of the curriculum, such as sports and horticulture. Potential Volunteers originate from various sectors of the population that include the retired, retired teachers, students from Canterbury Christ Church taking their MA in Special Needs and Inclusion, GAP Year Students, parents and carers.

**USE OF LOCAL BUSINESSES.** We aim to encourage local business to forge a relationship with our School to enable some of our pupils to experience true life experiences in the work place.



financially support our horticulture centre.

CO OPERATION WITH LOCAL CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS. The school needs to foster relationships with like-minded charitable organisations to give our pupils new experiences.

### COMMERCIAL SPONSORSHIP.

Commercial companies will be sought to sponsor the School. As an example, we intend to seek a garden centre to

**CHARITABLE DONATION**. We will work closely with the Friends of Foreland School, a registered charity, to encourage the giving of donations both from the commercial sectors, charitable donors and members of the public using Gift Aid.



## WORKING WITH THE INDEPENDENT

**SCHOOLS SECTOR**. We are exploring potential avenues with private schools. Independent Schools have a responsibility to provide additional social benefit for public good in order to retain their charitable status.

Approved by The Full Governing Body on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017

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Signed by the Chair of Governors Grant Mahoney