

Sale High School

Chair of Governor`s annual report

Autumn 2017

I said in my annual report last year that I thought the School had taken major strides towards becoming an outstanding school. This is an unflinching ambition by everyone associated with the School and is exemplified by the efforts, commitment and hard work that has been put in by all this last year. It has really paid off with some excellent results for our year 11 and those younger students in other years.

As always I want to congratulate students for their efforts and particularly want to wish them all well in their chosen destinations after school, whether to further their educational ambitions or enter the world of work. We hope that you enjoyed your time at the School and found it fulfilling; moreover that it helped you in your own ambitions.

The Governors continue to work well with the community and School by attending and contributing to school life as well as determining the way forward for the School. I would like to thank them all for their unfailing support and work this last year. We, of course, are not there to make up numbers or sit and nod in the right place but to ensure that the School is led and managed well by the Headteacher and staff. We support the Head in her leadership ambitions but we also challenge staff on a whole range of areas such as exam predictions, performance which is not up to our standard either from staff or students and financial and estate issues. We believe that the best will be achieved by a robust exchange of ideas and discussion in our meetings.

There have been several issues exercising the Governing Body this last year. Firstly our Headteacher, Lynn Nicholls decided to retire in August so we had the job of recruiting a new Headteacher. After two days of interviews we appointed Jayne O`Grady, the former Deputy Headteacher from Lymm High School. I want to thank Lynn for her amazing loyalty and leadership at the School over eight years. She contributed so much to making the School what it is today. Her foresight and drive led us into a truly new era of the School and we will always be grateful for her work here. We welcome Jayne as a very experienced deputy Headteacher and she is already making her mark and keeping the Chair of Governors on his toes!

Secondly I reported last year that the School had begun discussions with other schools about becoming part of a multi academy trust. This work has continued with a particular Trust in Trafford and a lot of work has been accomplished by both the governors and senior staff. However at its last meeting the governing body decided to withdraw from discussions and we will, for the foreseeable future remain an independent school. However we will, of course always look at other opportunities as they arise in the future to ensure the development of the School. These decisions will, nevertheless be based upon what is best for our students.

Externally there are always changes by the `education powers that be'. We receive regular reports from the Headteacher in her termly report which covers both internal issues such as Key Performance Indicators for the School plus news and developments externally. We give time and debate these in relation to the school moving forward.

Finally I would like to wish all students either in the School or just left all the very best in their studies. We will always welcome back our former students to let us know how they are progressing. Finally my thanks to all the teachers, governors and staff in the School for another remarkable year and hope that the next year will see even better improvements for all of us.

Graham Luccock

Chair of Governors