

Chair`s annual report 2023/2024

As always it`s a real pleasure to present the Chair of Governors` annual report for the last academic year. This will be my last annual report as I will be leaving the Board after many years serving the School. It has been an uplifting and satisfying experience for me to help, in a small way, the many thousands of students who have attended the School. We have, as governors and staff, together, seen it flourish and grow over the last few years, especially with results and achievements above the national average and in some cases in the top quartile. The School has truly become the first choice for many parents, carers and students due in no small part to the care, encouragement and sheer hard work of the Headteacher and all his staff. All are to be congratulated on their efforts last year.

We, as governors meet on a regular basis to review a whole host of business matters in the School. We scrutinize the budget, appoint staff, link with teachers and business managers to get to know the School better and review and question the Headteacher on achievements and student progress. This ensures that the Headteacher and his staff, first and foremost, are supported by governors as well as being challenged on decisions and issues, where appropriate. Governor roles are voluntary and we feel that working together with staff brings out the best in everyone and improves achievements.

Last year the achievement of those leaving the School was once again very good. Our headline results were similar to 2023, and the key measures remain above national average. We therefore remain a strong school, supporting and improving our local community, which we all feel is a key measure for us.

However, there is still much to do to help improve our students. Whilst the vast majority of students are self-motivated, staff work incredibly hard to support, for instance, students with SEND, mental health issues, the ones with less than good attendance and those with behavior which shall we say, can be very challenging. We do not want anyone to be left behind in their educational experience at Sale High and Governors hear simply amazing stories of the lengths staff go to in supporting students and their families.

Of particular note last year was the successful appointment of our new Headteacher, Adam Rogers. Adam has hit the ground running and introduced some excellent new actions to improve the breadth of student achievement, behavior policies and curriculum design. There will be a direct impact on our extended curriculum soon in subject choices through Adam`s leadership

We have in the past bemoaned the issue of a less than adequate School estate, which is sorely in need of improvement. However, there is light at the end of the tunnel and it now looks like the national government has listened to our appeals. There is a programme soon to be put into place for large-scale building improvements. Our thanks go to my fellow governors, Headteachers past and present and the local MP for their unswerving support for a better school environment for our students and staff. They thoroughly deserve it!

Finally, I want to wish the whole school the very best of fortune in the future. It is a strong school which is now well in its stride and it will, I`m convinced, develop further through the success of leadership and a passion for success

I also want to wish the departing students last summer all the very best and hope they do not lose touch with the School.

Many thanks to my fellow governors, staff and students. David Hopps and Lisa Beattie are now co-chairs of the governing body and will do a fine job in taking the School to new heights with the Headteacher.

Graham Luccock

Chair of Governors

Sale High Governing Body