

Dear Parent/ Carer

Chair of Governors – Update

I am writing to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at The Hamble School. I would like to start by thanking my predecessor Nigel Groves for his dedication to the school over the last 8 years.

My name is Hannah Craggs and I have been a co-opted governor at The Hamble School since June 2022. As a former student of the school, I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the school again and meeting students, staff and governors. I have been working in governance in schools since 2011 and have worked across early years, primary and secondary institutions. I have three school age children and I am passionate about supporting schools to provide the very best education and personal development opportunities for all children.

Since January 2023, the Senior Leadership Team has been working tirelessly to make changes and develop key areas to ensure rapid and sustained improvement across the school. We have already seen a significant positive change in behaviour and this has encouraged students to come to school ready to learn and try their best every day. The change in the general ‘feel’ of the school is tangible – staff surveys, student voice data and feedback from Hampshire Education Authority shows a vast improvement in the school. When I visited on Friday it was noticeably calm and purposeful and students and staff shared really positive feedback about their return to school.

The school has been working hard to ensure that all stakeholders (parents/ carers, students, staff and members of the wider community) are involved in school improvement, with opportunities for staff working groups, parent forums and student council involved in the providing feedback. Community consultation with Hamble Residents’ Association and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police ensures that there is an understanding of what is happening in the community and how that could impact our students.

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Alongside all of the work that the Senior Leadership Team has been doing, governors have also reflected on their role and have looked at ways to improve governance to ensure that the school has the right support and challenge to continue to make progress. Governors have closely monitored the new behaviour and rewards system to ensure that the changes being brought in are having a positive impact. We have carried out a skills audit of our board so that when new governors are co-opted they are bringing in skills and knowledge that will enable us to be more effective. As a result, we have been very pleased to welcome several new governors over the summer.

I am genuinely looking forward to taking on the role of Chair of Governors and continuing to work closely with all stakeholders to drive improvement at our school. As Governors we are fully supportive and committed to the school's vision and values. We look forward to meeting parents/ carers at events throughout the year.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H Craggs".

**Mrs H Craggs
Chair of Governors**

If, at any time, you should require special arrangements to be made when visiting the school and/or in order to participate fully in supporting your child at school (e.g. an accessible venue for meetings, if you are a wheelchair user, assistance with translation of documents or enlarged copies of communications etc.), please do not hesitate to let us know.