

## Governor news

### Summer term 2020/2021

We have had a very challenging year across our nation and world with an unprecedented pandemic and worldwide disruption, not least in our family and personal life, but also at Tuxford Academy. Alongside trying to ensure the safety of our facilities for learning and providing support for key worker and vulnerable children during lockdowns, we have also had the enormous task of supporting our students remotely, with its associated challenges, complexities, and staff workloads.

I am, however, very proud of all that the school community has done to tirelessly achieve these goals – they **have gone over and above** what would normally be expected. I would like to particularly commend the hard work and dedication of the senior leadership team and staff, as well as parents and students in making it possible, together with the crucial support from the executive leads in the Trust. We realise that we do not get everything right first time around and have developed robust communication channels with parents and students (and we listen) and have acted quickly to put things right as soon as physically possible, demonstrating our vision and aspirations at Tuxford Academy - '**Excellence through Teamwork**'.

With all this amazing support, networking, listening and teamwork we have been able to achieve meaningful and speedy action, and to minimise disruption and the number of infections. Compared to other institutions and areas of the country being thankfully minimal.

The governors have also worked exceptionally hard throughout this period. Not only to support the leaders and staff but to ensure a smooth and swift decision-making process - whilst protecting safety and the learning experience and support of students as much as is possible and ensuring we deploy our resources to where they are most needed and effective. During this time, we have been meeting weekly online to update the risk assessments (and informally more often when needed) as regulations and guidance changed nearly on a daily basis (sometimes more often). I would like to thank all members of the governing body for giving up so much of their valuable time as professional business people and parents who are unpaid volunteers. The academy has also received the gift of an additional defibrillator following on from governor visits and reports which identified the need. An amazing gift.

As we begin a new term, we will be holding elections for two members of the governing body (one parent and one staff member). Please consider standing, as your presence will add to our expertise and help us to serve the students for whom this is our most important task. Details will follow shortly.

Assessments and grading will begin soon, and the academy is committed to inform you of the process and the care that is taken, together with validation and audit to ensure that all grades are fair and reflect the student's abilities.

Once again, a big thank you to everyone who continues to make Tuxford Academy an 'outstanding' school.

Kind regards

**Revd Greg Price**  
**Chair of Governors, Tuxford Academy Committee**