



BLOSSOM FEDERATION



GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

2025-2026 EDITION

"Strong governance enables strong leadership."

SIP Report



CHAIR OF GOVERNORS WELCOME



Hi folks,

It's interesting to note that at the end of last summer term I wrote that I hoped everyone had managed to keep cool during the heatwave. It feels like we're having a repeat performance this year, perhaps with the volume turned up a little higher. I know our schools have managed it brilliantly, and I hope everyone, along with their families, has coped well with what has felt like an exceptional spell of weather. I'm hoping some of the sunshine continues into the holidays, just perhaps a few degrees cooler, so we can all enjoy a lovely summer break.



We continue to face the challenge of falling pupil numbers across Hackney, but we're responding positively to what that means for us, and pupil numbers across our schools generally remain healthy. More broadly, it has been another fantastic year for the federation.

Some of the highlights include:

- Starting the year with confirmation of Ofsted's judgement of Sebright as Outstanding.
- The opening of Sebright's ARP provision, The Meadow, in September. The launch event, attended by the Mayor of Hackney, was a wonderful celebration. We are fortunate to have such expertise in SEND and such a strong commitment to inclusion across the federation. It is something we should all be proud of.
- Daubeney having its own swimming pool on site this term. It still amazes me that this is possible!
- Another fantastic trip to Tenerife, with children from all three schools taking part this year. It gave them the opportunity to practise their Spanish and experience a different culture. Even better, we've secured funding to make the trip happen again next year.
- Brilliant events across the federation celebrating Pride Month in June.
- Pupils at Lauriston winning the Fourth Plinth Prize and seeing their work featured in the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition.
- A pupil at Daubeney winning the ArtBytes regional art competition.
- Year 5 pupils at Sebright taking part in Flip the Script, a film-making workshop at Rich Mix.

"Our governors are committed to excellence, equity, and the flourishing of every child within Blossom Federation."



As we look ahead to next year, I'm particularly excited about the beginning of the federation's relationship with Millfields Community School. I'm looking forward to the support we can offer and the opportunities it will create for staff right across the federation and at Millfields to learn from one another and work together.

I'm incredibly proud to be part of Blossom Federation and to work alongside such dedicated people. Across all our schools, staff continually strive to make them the very best they can be, not just academically, but as safe, welcoming and inclusive places where children can flourish and communities can come together. Thank you to our wonderful staff, our school communities and my fellow governors for everything you do to make Blossom Federation what it is.

Last but by no means least, I'd like to wish all of our Year 6 pupils every success as they move on to secondary school. Take everything you've learned during your time with us, be confident in yourselves, embrace the opportunities ahead, and continue to be brilliant. We know you'll do us proud.

And with that, I wish you all a wonderful summer break. Thank you for another great year and for everything you do for our children and communities. I hope everyone manages to find some time to rest, recharge and enjoy the summer. We look forward to seeing you again in September for another exciting year ahead.

All the best,
Will



Blossom Governors

The Blossom Federation Governing Body provides strategic leadership and oversight for our schools, working closely with senior leaders to ensure the highest standards of education, safeguarding, finance and governance.

Governors are volunteers from a range of professional backgrounds who provide support, challenge and accountability, helping to shape the future direction of the Federation while keeping children and their outcomes at the heart of every decision.

The Governing Body oversees the work of the Federation and its wider provision, including children's centre and family hub services



Who We Are

Will Emms

**Co-Opted Governor
Chair of Governors**

Curriculum & Standards Chair

Sam Ingleby

**Co-Opted Governor
Vice Chair**

Finance & Staffing Chair

Annwen Johnson BEM

**Co-Opted Governor
Daubeney LSC Chair**

Katie Lewis

**Co-Opted Governor
Sebright LSC Chair**

Katie Beck

**Co-Opted Governor
Lauriston LSC Chair**

Katy Beale

Parent Governor

Sofia Cerqueira

Parent Governor

Alex Ivey

Staff Governor

**Ohemaa Peprah-Konadu
Co-Opted Governor**

Reece Lukeman

Co-Opted Governor

Jessie Goodison Burgess

Young Governor

James Ross

Co-Opted Governor

Robin Warren

Executive Head Teacher

Jill Cameron

Clerk to the Governing Body

Governors can be contacted via the school offices

School Development Areas

1. Continue to improve outcomes for the lowest attaining pupils (25%) across all areas of the curriculum.
2. To further improve writing outcomes, with an explicit focus on spellings.
3. To further improve maths outcomes, with an explicit focus on early maths.
4. To develop the oracy skills of pupils to enhance their critical thinking. Justification and explanation of ideas across the curriculum.
5. To further embed Sustainability across the curriculum to develop environmentally literate learners



1. Enhancing the consistency and excellence in teaching writing, particularly at the foundational level in EYFS and KSI.
2. Building strong arithmetic foundations through developing a deep understanding of maths concepts using the mastery teaching technique.
3. Evaluating and refining assessment procedures throughout the school to ensure consistency and efficacy.
4. Embedding values of respect, empathy and inclusion across the school culture and curriculum to promote a sense of belonging for everyone.
5. To further strengthen the SEND provision within the school through personalised support and strong collaboration between the school and families.



1. To ensure the consistency of teaching and learning
2. To implement whole school speech and language strategies
3. To further develop the whole school writing journey
4. To enhance Foundation subjects' assessment
5. To strengthen the culture of 'Belonging'





Lauriston School

Lauriston Local School Committee

Louis Harris

Katie Beck (Chair)

Katy Beale

Jessie Goodison-Burgess

Chloe Way

Lowell Mason

James Ross

Will Emms



The purpose of the Lauriston Local School Committee, which is made up of a diverse group of parents, community members, faculty and school leadership, is to be a critical friend to the school. We do this by reviewing policies, asking challenging questions and holding the school to account in their ambition of providing high quality education in a warm and caring setting where all students can thrive.

Our shared goals are to help each child reach their full potential in education and to become happy strong confident learners who are prepared for their next stage in education when they leave Lauriston. Our approach is wholistic; in our endeavour to offer all students the best possible start in life, we are also committed to supporting the wellbeing of school staff and teachers and the school's overall stability.

Just as we take our work of holding the school to account very seriously, we also welcome you to share your views with us.

This year the Lauriston School Committee helped to support the school in advancing their school development priorities.



Like many schools in Hackney and further afield, Lauriston has been operating in a very challenging financial ecosystem. This year the school had to make some incredibly difficult decisions to change the staffing structure and we lost some beloved members of staff. The school community has shown grace and strength, pulling together to show our staff how much we appreciate them and showing the school how much support they can count on.

Where learning adventures begins

I want to highlight some of the amazing opportunities Lauriston students have had this year beyond the core curriculum, which I think demonstrates the commitment the school has to seeing the role of primary education to be not just about academic success, although of course this is paramount, but also about it being an enriching environment in other ways.

The school has taken students from our youngest learners in nursery up through year six on over 50 school trips this year making the most of the cultural and historic sites we have access to in London. These trips are made possible with the help of parent volunteers and we thank you! Some highlights include trips to the Black Cultural Archives, the Tate Modern, The British Library, The Tower of London, The London Zoo, the Postal Museum, and The Garden classroom just to name a few.

The school's commitment to giving children opportunities to gain skills in foreign language, music and leadership experiences is another area to note.



And on a personal note, as a parent of a child who is now graduating, I think the year Six residential is a hugely important milestone for the students and a rare chance for them to bond with each other, enjoy being outdoors and soak up the joys of being screen free and in nature on a very memorable camping trip.

A huge thank you to the whole school community to your support in making Lauriston a welcoming and stimulating place for all of our children.

Katie Beck
Chair, Lauriston Local School Committee

Dear Sebright Community,

On behalf of the Sebright local school committee, we wanted to reflect on the incredible achievements of Sebright over the 2025-2026 school year.

It has been a year to be genuinely proud of, and none of it would have been possible without the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the support of our wider school community.

We were delighted that Sebright was rated "Outstanding" by Ofsted in 2025, a fantastic recognition of the hard work that goes on across every part of the school.



Sebright Local School Committee

Terry Corpe
Katie Lewis (Chair)
Sofia Cerqueira
Roshan Nilaweera
Shane Franklin
Alex Ivey



One of the biggest milestones was the opening of the Meadow, our new Additional Resourced Provision (ARP) for children with significant speech, language and communication needs (SLCN). The Meadow provides tailored sessions and specialist lessons, and we were thrilled that the Mayor of Hackney attended the official opening in October, a lovely mark of recognition for the school and for the importance of this new provision.

The Meadow is designed to be inclusive, helping the school accommodate additional pupils through single registration, and it is expected to be full within two years given the growing demand for SEND places across Hackney.

Our wonderful Friends of Sebright organised two brilliant events this year the winter and summer fair. These events brought the school community together and raised vital funds for the school.

We had the chance to observe Year 6 doing their SATs this year. Spirits were high which I'm certain will be reflected in the final scores. Their teachers deserve real credit too, providing incredible support throughout the run-up to the tests, helping to remove stress from the process and enabling every child to achieve the most they possibly could.

*Unlocking brilliance through creative
learning*



This year also saw the introduction of daily pool provision, giving children the chance to swim every day and steadily build their confidence and swimming skills. This is such a special addition to school life.

Our Spanish provision was also recognised with a Gold Award, and ten children travelled to Tenerife to enhance their Spanish language skills, funded through a grant secured by the school's Spanish teacher. The school also welcomed distinguished visitors from the Spanish Embassy, who were highly impressed with the language learning taking place.

Reading has had a real boost this year too, with the launch of Jump into a Book, an initiative encouraging families to read together at home. It has been especially impactful for the school's large number of EAL learners, and the launch event saw an excellent turnout from parents.

Pupil voice has continued to flourish through the School Council, who presented to governors on the positive impact they've had on improving the KS1 toilets and the playground environment. They are now exploring additional playground equipment and a quiet snacking area for children who prefer a calmer space, and have been working hard to reduce food waste in the lunch hall. Pupils have also been busy preparing for a visit to the Houses of Parliament, creating posters for Diversity Day and carrying out surveys to help shape school decisions.



Sebright's reputation continues to grow beyond our own gates too — the school was interviewed by the Department for Education as part of the selection process to become a Lead Early Years School for the borough, and will continue to take part in the Early Years hub, sharing best practice regardless of the outcome.

On the curriculum side, this year's Black History Month focused on influential Black figures from the UK, including the country's first Black headteacher, broadening pupils' understanding beyond more commonly taught figures, and peer learning has flourished, with Year 5 pupils reading with Reception children to help raise attainment across the school.

Thank you, as ever, for your continued support of Sebright. We are proud to be part of such a thriving school community, and we look forward to building on all of this success together in the new school year.

Wishing everyone an amazing summer break!

Katie Lewis Chair Sebright Local School Committee



Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the Daubeney Community,

As Chair of Daubeney's Local School Committee (LSC), I am delighted to reflect on another successful academic year and to share some of the work undertaken by the LSC in support of our wonderful school.

The Local School Committee plays an important role within the Blossom Federation. Working alongside the Federation Governing Body, the Executive Headteacher, Head of School and senior leaders, our focus is on supporting and challenging the school to ensure that every child receives the best possible education. Governors provide strategic oversight, monitor progress against school priorities, review outcomes for pupils, and ensure that the school's values remain at the heart of all decision-making.

The Daubeney LSC is one of three Local School Committees within the Blossom Federation, each focusing on the individual needs and developments of its own school.

Throughout this academic year, LSC governors have regularly attended committee meetings, reviewed school improvement priorities, scrutinised pupil achievement data, monitored attendance and safeguarding arrangements, and considered how effectively resources are being used to support children's learning and wellbeing. In addition, governors have undertaken focused link-governor responsibilities aligned to key School Development Priorities, enabling us to gain first-hand insight into important areas of school improvement and provide informed support and challenge to leaders. We have continued to maintain a strong focus on inclusion, curriculum development, pupil voice, sustainability, outdoor learning and improving outcomes for underserved pupils.

Daubeney Local School Committee

Gregory Logan
Annwen Johnson BEM (Chair)
Pandora Giles
Julika Niehaus
Tom Smith
Ohemaa Peprah-Konadu
Reece Lukeman



A village school in the heart of the city

A key part of our role is visiting the school to see learning in action. The governors greatly value opportunities to spend time with pupils and staff, observe lessons, join school events and gain first-hand insight into the daily life of the school. These visits help us to understand the school's strengths, recognise achievements and identify areas for continued development. The Federation's governance arrangements place significant importance on governors being visible within school and actively engaged with the school community.



One particular highlight this year was Governor's Day, held on 24 May, when I had the privilege of attending alongside several members of the Daubeney LSC. The day provided an invaluable opportunity for governors to spend extended time in school, meet pupils and staff, observe teaching and learning, and deepen our understanding of the many initiatives taking place across the school. It was inspiring to see the enthusiasm, confidence and achievements of our children firsthand and to witness the dedication of staff in providing such rich learning experiences. Governor's Day reinforced our collective commitment to supporting the school's continued success.

I would like to thank all governors for the time, expertise and commitment they generously give on a voluntary basis. I would also like to thank our staff, led by the senior leadership team, for their hard work and professionalism throughout the year. Most importantly, I would like to congratulate our pupils, whose enthusiasm, resilience and achievements continue to make us proud. On behalf of the Local School Committee, thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support and partnership. Together, we help ensure that Daubeney remains a nurturing, ambitious and inclusive school where every child can flourish.

We look forward to continuing our work with the school community in the year ahead.
Yours sincerely, **Annwen Johnson BEM Chair Daubeney Local School Committee**

All Things Early Years



Sebright Children Centre



We are delighted to share that occupancy at Sebright Children's Centre continues to grow steadily. This positive trend reflects the confidence that local families have in the high-quality care and learning experiences provided by our dedicated team. The Red Room (Under 2s) is now operating at full capacity, highlighting the strong demand for our provision for babies and younger children. Suzanne, Juliet and the team are doing a great job.

Children continue to move successfully through the nursery, with a steady transition from the Red Room into the Blue Room. We have a very stable and loyal staff who care greatly for the children. We are pleased to have welcomed a new full-time Early Years Educator to the team - our first new recruit in a long while!

We remain committed to promoting our childcare offer and strengthening community engagement through partnerships such as our stay-and-play sessions with Anne Taylor, helping more families connect with the centre and access support.



Daubeney Child & Family Hub



Daubeney Child & Family Hub continues to play a vital role in supporting local families and strengthening partnership working across services. Suzanne manages the staff and professionals across Hackney brilliantly. Following recent changes to Children's Social Care, the Hub is now focusing on delivering universal services and early intervention support, while continuing to offer a wide range of activities and programmes including Stay and Play sessions, parenting support, health clinics, midwifery services, CAMHS support, housing advice and family wellbeing services.

The Hub is also becoming an increasingly important centre for multi-agency collaboration. Family Help teams are now using the building as a base for supervision, planning and joint working, bringing together professionals to better support children and families. Exciting plans are being developed to refurbish and expand the building, creating additional meeting and workspace capacity. While this will bring some change, we are confident that these developments will enhance the Hub's ability to serve the community and improve access to support for families across Hackney.



Thank
you!

Here's to another great year!

