



Langton Primary School
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20th September 2023

Dear Parents,

Further to my letter of 7th July I am writing to provide you with an update regarding Langton School's leadership beyond this current Autumn Term.

The Langton Governors have agreed to enter into a period of formal collaboration with the Foston-Stillington-Terrington (FST) Primary Schools Federation, commencing 1st January 2024. This collaboration will include the provision of a Headteacher and senior leadership services to Langton Primary School by the FST Federation, under the terms of a Service Level Agreement (SLA), which will be reviewed after six months, in June 2024. Under this SLA, Sarah Moore, the Executive Headteacher of the FST Federation will provide these services to Langton Primary School. Mrs Linda Bowman will continue in the senior leadership role, at Langton, for the remainder of this academic year.

Langton school has previously enjoyed a good working relationship with the FST Federation, collaborating on inter school moderation, and sharing ideas on school leadership best practice. Their culture and ethos are well aligned with Langton's and they have demonstrated success in making collaboration between small schools work to the benefit of all parties. Geographical proximity will also be helpful in terms of some of the practical aspects of working together.

During the current Autumn Term, Mrs Moore and Mrs Bowman will work together to develop an action plan for the formal collaboration, ready for commencement in January 2024. This will include establishment of an expanded School Improvement Team with delegated responsibility across the four schools. This will enable Mrs Moore to focus on strategic leadership of the schools, Heads of Schools to focus on curriculum development and teaching and learning, and dedicated subject leaders across the four schools who can develop an expertise in their specific area to support their colleagues. Shared leadership, professional development for staff, resources and curriculum ideas, across the four schools, will provide economy of scale for enhancements, resources and trips to bring subjects alive for children and develop cultural capital.

The benefits to the children of Langton School entering into this formal collaboration will include:

- Wider peer groups
- Better resources due to improved finances
- Affordability of additional staffing to support children
- Strong inclusive Quality First teaching and interventions led by a specialist team of SENCOs

Head teacher: Mrs Linda Bowman
Chair of Governors: Mr Howard Widdall

Creates opportunity



Releases potential



Achieves excellence

- Varied sporting opportunities led by a dedicated sports coordinator
- Increased opportunities for educational visits
- Constantly developing, rich and effectively sequenced curriculum helping to ensure strong progress

The benefits to the staff of Langton School, which in turn will further benefit the children, will include:

- Wider team to share ideas and best practice
- Shared staff meetings led by staff who are expert in their fields
- Team teaching / planning opportunities
- Wider Continuous Professional Development opportunities
- Mentoring for new teachers and coaching opportunities for existing teachers
- Teachers only required to lead one subject enabling increased focus and development of expertise.

I am sure you will appreciate that the current economic climate is creating significant challenges for all schools, and small schools in particular are facing difficult times. Collaboration is one way in which small schools, through sharing resources and spreading costs, can ensure their continuing viability, whilst maintaining their individuality. The Langton Governors believe that entering into this formal collaboration with the FST Federation is the right opportunity for the school at this time, enabling standards to be maintained and the quality of education for the children to be enhanced, while helping to guarantee financial viability.

I appreciate that you may have questions about this collaboration. Mrs Bowman will be happy to speak to any parents who would like to discuss this, or alternatively please let Mrs Conroy know if you would like to contact me.

With best regards,

Howard Widdall
Chair of Governors, Langton Primary School