





Tuesday 6 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday, we welcomed Miss Alexander back to Long Mead following her maternity leave. Miss Alexander will work with Mrs Follows leading the school until she moves to Ide Hill after Easter, her final date in school being Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March. In order to maintain consistency, Mrs Follows will continue to retain the most visible leadership presence, with a strong emphasis on teaching and learning, and will remain the first point of contact for parents.

Over the coming weeks, both Mrs Follows and Miss Alexander will work with governors on ensuring Long Mead's defederation from Hugh Christie goes very smoothly. Once The Tonbridge Federation has been dissolved, most likely at the beginning of April, Long Mead will become a standalone local authority school. A new governing board will be created, whose responsibility it will be to ensure the successful development of the school, providing strategic oversight and challenge and deciding next steps as the school moves forward. Last week, parent governor applications were sent to you as part of this process. Please complete and return a form if you would like to join the new board.

Both the current and new governing board will continue to work in the best interests of all staff and pupils and keep you as informed as possible as we move through this period of change together.

Kindest regards,

Mrs L BroomMrs T DatersChair of GovernorsVice Chair of Governors