



# NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Executive Principal



STANTONBURY  
SCHOOL

16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Dear Stantonbury families

As we approach the end of the school year, I have been reflecting on the progress we have made since Stantonbury School joined the Tove Learning Trust in September 2021. The time seems to have gone incredibly quickly but I think there are a number of successes that we can celebrate. From my perspective our headline successes are:

- The curriculum that we offer is more balanced than previously and we have reset expectations so that our curriculum is more ambitious so we can ensure that students know more and can remember more.
- Classroom routines are much stronger and teacher expectations are higher so learning can take place effectively. Evidence from the hundreds of lesson visits that have been made by members of the leadership team and Tove Learning Trust central staff shows that classrooms are calmer and more productive places.
- Students, staff, and parents broadly understand our new behaviour system and we are seeing that when it is applied consistently, it has a strong impact.
- Keeping students safe in school has been a priority and from what students are telling us, they agree that the school feels safer than it did in recent times. As part of this agenda, we have taken a deeper look at bullying and harmful sexual behaviours - two topics of national interest that have impact here at Stantonbury. Students have appreciated the opportunity to be involved in a range of PSHE and Tutorial programmes to discuss these important issues and to be involved actively in leading anti-bullying initiatives.
- Parents are telling us that communication between school and home feels more appropriate and timely. We are pleased to be able to join the Stantonbury parent Facebook group and see this as a way of improving communications further. Staff who have been here longer than me feel that there are stronger relationships between parents and the school and better partnership working.
- There has been a lot of work behind the scenes (against a very challenging recruitment environment) to ensure that we have the right staff in place to enable the school to run effectively and to recruit the best teachers.



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- There has been a greater extracurricular offer this year which has been well received by students.

Although I am pleased that we have made good progress in many areas I am very aware that we have much more to do. For each of the successes that I have listed there is scope and necessity for further improvement. We will achieve this over time by ensuring greater consistency so that every lesson is effective, challenging, and enjoyable. We also need to continue to develop the partnership between home and the school so that where there are barriers to learning and attendance, these can be overcome.

I have mentioned the importance of the partnership with parents a few times in this letter and we would like your support in answering this short survey <https://forms.gle/Su9Z8L9PbdeYimJk8> so we can hear about your experiences of Stantonbury School this year. The survey questions are the same ones that Ofsted use in their Parentview system, but we have added a couple at the end that are of interest to us. It shouldn't take long to complete the survey and we hope that as many of you as possible will take the time to answer it. The responses are anonymous but there is an option to include your name and contact details if you are happy to do so - it is often helpful to have a quick telephone call with willing parents to get some detail about the responses you have made. It would be particularly helpful if your responses can refer to your experiences this year since the school joined Tove Learning Trust. The survey will close on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Your responses to the survey will influence our strategic plan priorities for next year which we will share with you before the end of the summer term.

Thank you for your continued support of Stantonbury School.

Yours sincerely

Jim Parker  
Executive Principal