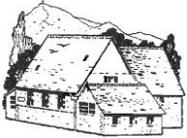




The Dartmoor Federation comprises:

- Boasley Cross Primary School
- Bridestowe Primary School
- Exbourne C of E Primary School
- Lydford Primary School
- Northlew & Ashbury Parochial C of E Primary
- Okehampton College



Lydford Primary



Okehampton College

July 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

The Dartmoor Federation Leadership

As you will know, the College is a member of The Dartmoor Federation which is governed by a single executive governing board and the Federation sits within the Dartmoor Co-Operative Learning Trust along with three other local primary schools. These partnerships continue to grow and evolve in an ever more rapidly changing and challenging landscape.

A little over a year ago, governors took the decision to strengthen and clarify the leadership structure of the Federation by appointing Mr Chapman to the new post of Executive Principal with overall responsibility for all six of our schools, Mr Brett as Head of Secondary Education and Mr Brady as Head of Primary Education, with Mrs Wells as his Deputy. A Head of School is now in place at each primary school. This structure has worked extremely well and we have no intention of making any unnecessary changes – indeed we are delighted with the continuing improvement in standards achieved at the College as confirmed during a recent HMI visit and with the progress at our primary schools.

Since we instigated the current structure there have been changes that have now created an opportunity to review and revise the arrangements to enable governors to provide the best possible support for our outstanding leadership team as we face yet further change and potentially further growth. Northlew and Ashbury Primary school joined the Federation in September last year and we are comfortable that this new member of our family has now been fully assimilated. Mrs Wells has decided to retire this summer after a wonderful career and the College has been designated as a Teaching School – we are currently building a cross-phase Teaching School Alliance which to date has been joined by over 20 local schools.

Against this background and to ensure that our leaders have sufficient time and resource to fulfil their demanding roles, governors have decided to make the following changes to take effect from 1st September; Mr Chapman will continue as Executive Principal with overall responsibility for the Federation and the Teaching School Alliance. He is also a key driver in the Co-Operative Trust and has been appointed by the government as a National Leader of Education.

Mr Brett will become Head Teacher of Okehampton College with full responsibility for the day to day operation and continued improvement of the College, reporting to Mr Chapman and to the Governing Board. Mr Brady will become Executive Head Teacher (Primary) and continue with his responsibility for all five of the Federation's primary schools, also reporting to Mr Chapman and to the governing board.

All three will continue to sit as governors on the governing board of the Dartmoor Federation.

On behalf of the governors, I wish to thank Mr Chapman, Mr Brett, Mr Brady and Mrs Wells for their exceptional hard work, dedication and outstanding leadership which has enabled all of our schools to continue to thrive, grow and improve at a time of huge change in the country's education system, under the pressure of an extremely difficult financial environment and ever greater scrutiny.

Thank you too for your engagement with and support of the College this year. We are firm in our belief that education is a co-operative partnership for the benefit of our young learners and we will never stray from that fundamental guiding principle.

Wishing you a pleasant and relaxing summer.



Ian Courtney MBE
Chair, The Dartmoor Federation