



## St James' Church of England Junior School

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**Headteacher:** Mr Andrew Beattie

*"With exploring minds, and faith; we grow and learn together."*

January 2023

### St. James' Church of England Junior School - Governors Annual Statement January 2023

Welcome to the Spring term at St. James'. We hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas with loved ones and we wish you a happy and healthy new year.

During the last year, we have seen the 'normal' return after the difficult few years of the pandemic. In this time, life at St James' has been filled with the extensive and enriching curriculum and corresponding visits and activities beyond the school itself. As we look forward, it is important to reflect and recognise 2022 as the wonderful year it was. For the staff and students at St James' as in April of last year we received positive validation of our wonderful efforts during the Ofsted inspection. It was heart-warming to read how the inspector recognised the close relationships school and parents have in providing the best outcomes for all children here. We endeavour that 2023 will continue on this stead and children will continue to be offered the opportunity to grow and learn, both inside and outside of the classroom.

As governors, we have been meeting regularly to ensure that policies and procedures are followed and that we are still maintaining the high level of teaching and care for all children and staff alike. In the Autumn term, governors have spent time in school conversing with subject leaders regarding their vision for each curriculum area and in conjunction with this, have had the opportunity to discuss learning with children themselves. It has been a delight to see the hard work of subject leaders translate into some excellent learning opportunities for children and to hear children discuss this with happiness and enthusiasm.

It was lovely to be able to use St James' Church again over Christmas and to see the community come out in support of the school's choir service and the nativity. St James' Church was teeming with families of our children, revelling in the joyous atmosphere and celebrating some wonderful acting and singing. Additionally, we have had numerous visits to St James' Church for our Collective Worship as well as a Christmas workshop with Reverend Jackson. Not only do



these visits help to maintain our links to our Christian values, but they are thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and children.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish a heartfelt goodbye to Reverend Jackson. Even in my short time at St James', I see daily the impact he has within the school and the fondness staff and children have towards him and all that he does. His leaving is going to bring a monumental loss to both the school and the local community however his influence and strong Christian values that are deeply embedded in school life will continue in his absence. As a school and Governing Body, we would like to thank Reverend Jackson for his long-standing commitment and for guiding us with his strong Christian influence. We wish him luck, success and happiness in his new role.

Over the coming year, the Governing body will continue to support and celebrate the successes of St James'. We are thrilled to work alongside a committed staffing body as well as being thankful to parents and carers who offer their constant support. The positive and successful relationships here are a testament to the school and 'The St James' Way' that is followed by all and this is echoed by the staff that have recently joined us at the start of this academic year. The Governing Body look forward to another successful year at St James' and wish to thank all staff and parents for their commitment throughout 2022.

Yours sincerely

Latasha Pool  
For & on behalf of St. James' Junior Governing Body

