

Cadmore End, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire HP14 3PE
 Telephone: 01494 881460 | Email: office@cadmoreendschool.org
 Headteacher: Mrs. D Groom

'From small beginnings come great things.'
 The parable of The Mustard Seed. Matthew 13:31-32

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Chair of Governors, it is my pleasure to welcome both new and returning pupils to the school for the new academic year. Although we are already a few weeks into the term, I hope that everyone has settled into the routine and your children are in good health and high spirits as we embark on a new academic year.

Our School Community:

Cadmore End School has enjoyed a fantastic few years, with both SIAMS and Ofsted rating the school **'Good'** across all areas. With these inspections behind us for the next few years, we are focussed on really building on the progress we've made. In addition, we are delighted to welcome back all of our highly experienced teachers - Their knowledge and dedication, supported by our incredible support staff, provide an excellent learning environment for all of our children.

Our teaching team for this year remains:

- Mrs Hazell (Nursery),
- Miss Atkins and Mrs Deane (Class 1),
- Mrs Baird (Class 2),
- Mr Thorpe (Class 3),
- Mr Stone (Class 4).

The Governing Board:

Our Governing Board brings together a wealth of expertise in education, finance, and beyond, and we are all dedicated to support the school's leadership team in delivering the highest standards of education.

Below is a quick look at our current governors:

Name	Governor Appointment	Responsibility / Committees
Mr Oliver Westby	Parent Governor (Chair of Governors)	Safeguarding, H&S and Premises, Attendance, Finance, HTPM, Governor development
Mr Jon De Keyser	Parent Governor (Vice Chair of Governors)	Finance Committee Chair, Maths.
Mrs Debbie Groom	Headteacher (Ex-Officio)	
Mrs Kath Baird	Staff Appointed	
Mrs Zoe Champness	Foundation Diocesan Board	<i>Newly Elected October 2024</i>
Mr Steve Kelsey	Foundation Diocesan Board	Finance, English, Digital Security
Mrs Lucy Smith	Foundation Parochial Church Council	EYFS
Mr Paul Morgan	Foundation Parochial Church Council (TBC)	Safeguarding
Rev Mark Ackford	Foundation Incumbent (Ex-Officio)	Inclusion (SEN and Pupil Premium), HTPM
Mrs Bronwen Zeun	LA Appointed	Curriculum

Website: www.cadmoreendschool.org Charity Reg. No. 1066943



Love

Faith

Courage

Honesty

Respect

Empathy

School Funding Challenges:

While we have a lot to celebrate, there are challenges that lie ahead, particularly regarding funding for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), which impacts a small number of our pupils. As you may be aware, in September 2024, the local authority made the decision not to renew the High Needs Block Funding (HNBF) support they provide to all schools across the county.

HNBF is funding specifically allocated to support children with more complex needs who require additional assistance beyond what schools are expected to provide through the typical mainstream funding. This includes funding towards additional teaching assistants who work with pupils individually or in smaller groups, and other learning aids to ensure that every child has access to the education they need, regardless of their individual challenges.

We understand that this news may be worrying for parents of children who are in receipt of this support, so I want to reassure you that despite the withdrawal of this funding, **there will be no reduction in the support provided to any pupils at Cadmore End**. The school and governing board have made a joint commitment to maintain the current level of SEND provision throughout the academic year, and to ensure we can do this, we have decided to temporarily run a small budget deficit while working on longer-term solutions. This decision will reduce our reserves, but will not take us into debt or affect the financial stability of the school.

Our longer-term strategy includes formally advocating for HNBF reinstatement with local authority officials and actively pursuing additional funding through Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCPs). Although EHCPs require more time and extensive evidence to obtain, Mrs Groom, our Headteacher and SENCO, has a proven track record of successfully securing this funding for our pupils. Despite a backlog of applications with the local authority from schools across the county, we are confident we will achieve the necessary EHCP funding to return to a balanced budget in the next academic year.

For parents whose children are not in receipt of additional funding through HNBF, we want to assure you that these financial challenges will not affect the quality of education your children receive. Our priority is to maintain a well-resourced and inclusive school environment for all pupils, as we believe that when every child thrives, the entire school community benefits.

We will keep you regularly updated on developments, and I encourage you to reach out via Office@CadmoreEndSchool.org if you have any specific questions of concerns.

Attendance and Punctuality:

Following my communications to you last academic year, I would like once again focus on the ongoing issue of punctuality. Arriving on time each day is vital, not only for your child's learning but also for the smooth running of the school day and avoiding disrupting the learning of others.

Punctuality helps children develop good habits that will benefit them both academically and personally, fostering a sense of responsibility and readiness. I encourage you to ensure your children are in school on time each morning, as part of our shared commitment to their success.

Reminder: The school gates open at 08:35 and registration takes place at 08:45

Wrap-around Care:

We recognise that the timings of the school day can present challenges for some, which is why I am pleased to remind you that new for the 2024-25 academic year, the school now offers a full wrap-around care service from 07:45 to 18:30. Full details can be found on the school website.

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Opportunities to get involved:

I also want to draw your attention to the **Parent Governor vacancies** we currently have on our Governing Board. This is an excellent opportunity for parents to take a more active role in shaping the future of our school and influencing key decisions. If you are interested in applying or would like more information, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

If becoming a governor is not something you can commit to, there are still many other ways you can help the school. Our **Parent-Teacher Association (PTA)** plays a vital role in addressing some of the funding challenges we face. The PTA's fundraising efforts are essential in bridging financial gaps, particularly considering the recent changes to SEND funding. The PTA are always looking for volunteers to support in organizing events or coming up with new fundraising ideas. Every little bit helps, and your involvement can make a significant difference.

Thank you once again for your continued support as we work together to make this academic year a successful and fulfilling one for all our children. I look forward to working closely with you in the months ahead.

Kind regards,

Oliver Westby

Chair of Governors



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