



HUNGERFORD NURSERY SCHOOL

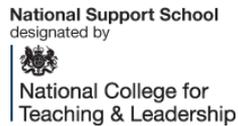
Centre for Children and Families

The Croft, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0HY
Telephone: 01488 682628

Email: office@hungerfordnursery.w-berks.sch.uk

Website: www.hungerfordnurseryschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Suzanne Taylor



Dear all,

Hungerford Nursery Centre for Children and Families

As Chair of Governors it always gives me great pleasure to share with you the achievements of our Centre. The Governors are extremely proud of the professionalism, dedication and hard work of Suzanne Taylor and all her staff and their achievements.

We are one of only two Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS) in West Berkshire. In addition to our Nursery School, we have a Service Level Agreement with West Berkshire Council to run our Family Centre. We also run an Early Years Teaching Centre. We have also recently been awarded National Support School status. All three elements work closely together for the benefit of local children and parents. Our Board of Governors has a wide range of skills, experience and knowledge.

Nursery School

- Last autumn the Nursery, including the Pre-Nursery, was awarded our fourth successive grading of 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. This reflects the continued excellent outcomes for children and the quality of teaching within the Nursery.
- Staff are committed to ongoing professional training and development. During the past year Nursery staff have completed ELKLAN training. This course was challenging, but has provided staff with additional strategies for promoting communication skills in young children. Staff also run training sessions for parents/carers on a variety of relevant subjects; for example, how to promote positive behaviour. Fourteen staff have become qualified in Level 3 Language Development.
- The Nursery was recently awarded an Outstanding Food Award, which is extremely uncommon for a MNS to achieve. The Governors would especially like to thank the specific staff who were instrumental in achieving this award. Food-related activities within the Nursery School include maintaining an allotment, children shopping at our local market for produce, and children and their parents having opportunities to cook food together.
- Suzanne Taylor has visited Lithuania as part of an Erasmus (educational focus) project. She has shared with both staff and Governors interesting and thought-provoking feedback of her visit.
- September 2017 has seen the introduction and implementation of the 15+ hours of free childcare for families where both parents are working. A range of staff have worked hard to ensure that this initiative will run as smoothly as possible for the benefit of the parents and children involved.
- Suzanne regularly attends All Party Parliamentary Group meetings in London to support the campaign for the continuation of MNS. These meetings highlight the challenges that MNS face concerning future funding and the importance of continued lobbying in whatever ways we can.

Family Centre

- The Family Centre has achieved some wonderful outcomes, working in a holistic and exciting ways. This is more amazing considering that the Family Centre only has a very minimal budget, has a small staff team and works across a 160 square mile catchment area, including Lambourn, Kintbury and the surrounding villages.
- The innovative work of the Centre was recognised by West Berkshire Council Adult and Community Learning (ACL) team. Our Centre was awarded 'The most dedicated to learning organisation' at the recent WBC ACL awards ceremony. Innovative ways of working include: partnerships with Kintbury

Pre School and School; delivering BOOST training; and offering a pilot training programme about domestic abuse to feeder schools for John O' Gaunt and in other specific areas of W Berks.

- The Family Centre was also invited to the next West Berkshire Health and Wellbeing board (Sept 17) to discuss our successes and how we see it moving forward across West Berkshire.

Teaching Centre

- The Governors are rightly proud of, and fully support, the great work that Suzanne and her team do through the Early Years Teaching Centre and Training Base. This offers support and training opportunities for practitioners and local head teachers with a focus on the Early Years.
- The Teaching Centre continues to run various courses for Early Years practitioners, such as relating to Woodland skills, Schemas, Storytelling and Questioning. Feedback has been extremely positive. For example: one practitioner stating that this training had made a difference to her Ofsted outcome, gaining a judgement of outstanding; in another provision, setting up woodland spaces for children.
- As mentioned above, we have been awarded National Support School status and Suzanne Taylor has been appointed as a National Leader of Education. This is a great achievement and should be celebrated. It will be another exciting way in which we can further share our quality practice.

On behalf of the Governors, I would like to make you aware of future challenges that we may be facing. West Berkshire budgets for our Family Centre continue to be very tight. We are, therefore, not sure what the future may hold in the way of funding for this important community service and element of our Centre. In addition, we are unsure what the future will hold in relation to budgets and funding for our Nursery School. However, the Governors are not complacent and will continue to fight and lobby in any way we can to ensure a secure future for our excellent provision.

Finally, and very importantly, the Governors value the strong and effective partnerships that the Centre has with you all. We always welcome any feedback that you may wish to give. We also value your support of SHOAL, our fundraising charitable group, which organises various events throughout the year.



Daphne Angell
Chair of Governors
Hungerford Nursery Centre for Children and Families

Autumn 2017