



Discovery Schools Academy Trust

CEO: **Mr Paul Stone**

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Dear Parents and Staff,

Discovery Schools Academy Trust, of which Danemill Primary School is a part of, has carried out a review of governance arrangements across the Trust to ensure it is meeting the needs of the school and helping to achieve the best outcomes for our children.

As a multi-academy trust (MAT), the legal responsibility for governance rests with the Board of Trustees (sometimes known as the board of directors or governing body) who determine any governance functions to be carried out locally. Following this comprehensive review and detailed consultation with headteachers and governors, the Board has agreed a number of changes to strengthen governance arrangements.

The Board recognises that good governance requires meaningful engagement with parents, staff and the local community to understand your views and guide decision making. The Board will continue to delegate governance functions locally to the existing Advisory Board [formerly known as the Local Governing Body] which has a key role in influencing the direction of the school and ensuring it is meeting the needs of the children. The Advisory Board consists of parents, staff and community representatives who add value and support the strategic development of the school. The functions of the Advisory Board are set out in the Trust Scheme of Delegation which is available on the Discovery Schools website: www.discoveryschoolstrust.org.uk.

In addition, later this term, the Trust will implement Cluster Governing Boards which are responsible for the performance of a group of schools and will report to the Board of Trustees. This new layer of governance will have a significant benefit to our schools in terms of sharing best practice across the Trust and driving improvement. Cluster Governing Boards will have close links with the school Advisory Board and actively take account of and respond to issues and risks it identifies.

The Trust is confident that the revised structure will bring with it a shared purpose and clarification of responsibilities across the governance structure to secure further improvement in our schools. Additional information about our governance strategy is available at: www.discoveryschoolstrust.org.uk.

If you have a passion for improving outcomes for children and would like to use your skills and expertise to contribute to the governance of our schools please get in touch by contacting Helen Stockill at hstockill@discoveryschoolstrust.org.uk.

Yours faithfully

Paul Stone
Chief Executive Officer

Registered



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