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8th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that everyone has settled into the new school routine. The Autumn term is in full swing and I am pleased to share with you that our new temporary Executive Head Teacher, Charlotte Whyte, is fully immersed in the lives of our schools. She really appreciates the warm welcome she has received from you all.

Governors have been even more busy than usual this term and are currently investigating strategic options for our Federation and working to recruit a new Executive Head Teacher. These are exciting times for our schools, despite the continued safety restrictions due to Covid-19. Staff have shared with me how much they are enjoying the opportunity to talk to our families again; they have missed being able to interact with you.

We would like to thank several of our flexi-schooling families who shared with us how passionately they feel about this arrangement. Ofsted made it clear to us in their recent (<https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50169333>) inspection of Carleton Rode school, that children on part time timetables within our Federation, must return quickly to full time schooling. The Local Authority have been more specific, stating that our flexi-schooling children must all return to school via phased return, to be full time by the end of the Autumn term.

In the light of these circumstances, governors support our temporary Executive Head Teacher, Charlotte Whyte, to phase all our Federation flexi-schooling children into full time schooling by the end of this term. Going forward, flexi-schooling will be an arrangement reserved for exceptional (usually medical) circumstances only. We look forward to seeing all our children in school full time, to benefit from the enriching educational experiences that they are all entitled to within our Federation family.

Thank you also to those parents who have approached us with an interest in becoming a governor; we are delighted to hear from you and look forward to exploring this with you further.

I will write again, to keep you updated as we make progress with strategy and recruitment.

Yours faithfully,

Sally Richards

Chair of Governors

Carleton Rode and Forncett St Peter CEVA Primary Federation