



Introduction

Each year the governors of Trinity School Sevenoaks are required to report to the school's parent trust, SCET, at the Annual General Meeting of that body. The school's Annual Report and Accounts presents many of the key facts: the main text of that report for the year ending August 31st 2015 is attached to this document. The full version is available from the school website. This covering document provides a brief update on progress between August 2015 and April 2016.

Pupil numbers

Trinity has space for four forms of entry each year, ie 120 pupils. We opened in September 2013 at our temporary site in Riverhead, and moved to temporary accommodation at the Wildernesse site last September. We now have three year groups, Years 7, 8 and 9, comprising 346 pupils at this time. Next September our oldest children will start their GCSE courses. Trinity is expected to be over-subscribed for our next year group which will join us in September 2016.

Ofsted

Trinity had a two day visit from Ofsted inspectors in June 2015. The school was categorised as 'Good' in all areas, which was encouraging. The report may be viewed on the school's website. We were particularly pleased that the inspectors agreed that our pupils were making good progress in their academic studies, with a good proportion exceeding national expectations. They also praised our pupils' exemplary behavior. There were of course also areas for improvement which the Headmaster and governors are now focusing on.

Christian Distinctiveness

The school continues to be very grateful for the prayers of SCET churches. A parents' prayer group continues to meet monthly in term-time, and often parents are joined by members of SCET churches. Anyone who wants to attend these meetings should email the school to be put on the invitation list.

Twice each week, on a Tuesday and a Friday, the school worships together. We have been very glad to welcome a number of SCET ministers, as well as other outside speakers, to speak. New speakers are always welcome. We also hold two services each year for the whole school: a Christmas carol service and an Easter Eucharist.

We have been delighted to welcome Alice Dunstall as our new Chaplain and James Taylor as Assistant Chaplain. Alice also organises Community Service and is always keen to build relationships with churches to extend the opportunities we give to our young people. She is available to visit churches on Sundays to talk about Trinity. Christian input at Trinity is also provided by teachers, support staff, visiting ministers such as Revd Dorothy McGarvey on placement, and youth workers from Sevenoaks Area Youth Trust and SCET churches. The latter are helping to run increasingly popular CU meetings at lunchtime.

On 9th June James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester, will visit the school for the first time. We will be delighted to welcome him. Trinity is a member of the Rochester Diocesan Family of Schools.

We'd like to place on record our appreciation for the support of many churches in the area, particularly mentioning Hope Church who have been unstintingly generous in allowing us to use their facilities on numerous occasions.

The SCET directors have agreed that the school should not have an inspection of its Christian distinctiveness this academic year: instead it will take place next year.



Headteacher

In January Matthew Tate told governors that he had accepted another job, as Headteacher of Hartsdown Academy in Margate. This school is in one of the most deprived areas in the country and Matthew believes that he can make a bigger impact in this context. The governors were of course disappointed with his decision but he will leave with our considerable thanks for all he has done and our best wishes for his future. In February the search started for a new head and we were very pleased in March to announce the appointment of Matthew Pawson. Revd Chris Smith, the Chairman of SCET, was involved in the appointment process. Matthew Pawson will attend the SCET AGM in May. We are hoping to organise a Commissioning Service for Matthew in September, to which all SCET churches will be invited.

Governors

The only change to the Governing Board this year has been the resignation of our staff governor, Deborah Ingham. We do not yet have a replacement. The chair of our Resources Committee, Stuart Heath, has been exceptionally busy at work and does not really have time to do justice to the role. We would like to co-opt a new person with the skills to take over from him. Ideally we need an experienced accountant. It would be very helpful if SCET churches could consider whether there is anyone in their congregations who might be willing to serve in this role.

Premises

At the end of the summer holidays the school will move from our temporary accommodation at the Wildernesse site to our new purpose-built school on the same site. In December we had a 'Topping Out' ceremony: Revd Chris Smith led prayers. The governors are now planning an official opening ceremony to which SCET churches will be invited.

Conclusion

We covet your prayers as we move forward, particularly for our new Headmaster Matthew Pawson as he takes up his new responsibilities, and for a smooth transition to our new building.

*Bill Lattimer
Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governors of Trinity School Sevenoaks
May 2016*