



# LIFE Matters



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LIFE Education Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales no 08102628 at the above address

## Summer 2018

### Message from the CEO

As we reach the end of the second year of our existence, we can reflect on many of the ways that we have been true to the values that we spent so long establishing. Our two founder schools, Benhurst Primary School and Frances Bardsley Academy, have continued to develop a close relationship and explored teaching and learning, staff development, finance and facilities together.

The Trust has developed a number of activities for students from our schools and partners such as the recent LIFE Sports Day and Maths Challenge. Staff have benefited from an end of term BBQ as a thank you for all their hard work.

**New schools** - I am delighted that Dame Tipping CofE Primary School and Margaretting Church of England Primary School have applied to join the Trust and both have been approved by the Department for Education. Extensive consultation has now finished and we are finalising the legal arrangements for both schools. This will increase the size of the Trust with schools that share our commitment to Learning From The Past; Living In The Present and Looking To The Future as well as supporting British Values and a broadly Christian education.

An Ofsted Inspection at The Bridge Alternative Provision Centre at the end of June ended very favourably and we hope that our application to become an independent school will be approved early in the new academic year.

**Staff** - Next year I am delighted that Ian Gurman, our Director of Standards, will be increasing his days to 4 a week. He will continue to support other Havering Secondary Schools. Surinder Panesar, the LIFE Support Maths Advisor will be working with Havering Maths Departments as well as schools in other local authorities. Surinder was named one of the North East London Maths Hub Coordinators of the Year at a recent ceremony. They will also both be available to share their expertise even more widely

**Ethos** - Our work on values, led by Rachel Grimwood, has continued to attract positive attention locally and nationally. We firmly believe that the best way to ensure outstanding outcomes for students in all areas is to offer a wide range of opportunities and experiences and to nurture the whole child. Our work on mental health and wellbeing particularly how to cope with challenging circumstances is being shared with other schools and organisations. However difficult something is, we remember that It is not Personal; It is not Permanent and It is not all Pervasive. This advice helps us to remain positive and optimistic whatever comes our way.

**Best Wishes**  
**Julian Dutnall, CEO**

### Message from the Chair

I will be retiring from the Trust Board and as a Member at the end of this academic year. It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Trust Board for the last two years and I believe that we have established firm foundations for good governance, ethos and school improvement.

I will be succeeded by Mrs Louise Douglas as Chair of the Board. Mick Debens will be Vice Chair. Steve Odart has recently joined the Board and offers expertise in business development and IT. Mary Cherry joins the board in September and has expertise in school finance and premises.

Discussions with the Church of England about admission of two small Church primary schools to the Trust are proceeding well.

My best wishes for future success to all those who are part of LIFE Education Trust.

**Ann Smart OBE**

# Benhurst

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 16 children from Benhurst went to represent our school at the Havering Badminton Championships at Bower Park School. We were defending the trophy we won last year but with several strong teams from other schools, we knew retaining the trophy would be a real challenge. Competition for places at Benhurst is very high and the standard excellent – this meant we were able to send a very competitive A and B team against eight other teams.

After a morning of games and challenges, we were delighted that our A team were crowned Havering Badminton Champions with a record 1112 points with our B team gaining runners up spot with 674 points. We were also very successful with a number of individual and team challenges. Cameron enjoyed a fantastic tournament and was part of the A team as well as winning individual challenges in the hit up and catch, the forehand target and individual rally. Amber won the backhand serve challenge and the A team won the team rally challenge.

Well done to our team members – we have now started practising ready for next year's tournament where we hope to make it a hat trick of championships!



# Frances Bardsley

A French victory in the World Cup has left England fans waiting for glory for another four years but fear not as the students and PE Department at the Frances Bardsley Academy keep bringing football home to the faithful after another exceptional year especially on the pitch. The trophy cabinet is bursting at the seams after victories in a number of tournaments and competitions.

Our outstanding crop of footballers have represented the school with enthusiasm and were crowned Under 13 and Under 16 winners in the Premier League West Ham Tournament. They are Havering 11 a side Champions at Under 14 and Under 16 and finalists in the Havering 7 a side in Year 7, Under 14 and Under 16.

In the London Youth Games Para Athletics we achieved third in the javelin and sprint; first place in the shot put and first place in the 200m and relay



# Meet the Team

Sharon Chapman is LIFE's Physical Education Co-Ordinator. Sharon taught in Barking and Dagenham for 16 years before joining Frances Bardsley Academy. In 2004 she was appointed as School Sports Co-ordinator and this is where she began working with Primary Schools. During this time Sharon has led staff training in primary schools working with teachers to extend their knowledge in Physical Education.

She has also organised Dance, Games, Orienteering and Athletics Festivals and is looking forward to continuing in this important role. Sharon co-ordinates the Physical Education volunteer programme at FBA and is able to offer a committed group of young leaders to help with events.



**All of us involved in the Trust want to record our gratitude to Ann Smart OBE. Ann has been a leading figure in the creation and development of LIFE and we wish her well for the future.**

