



# Jennett's Park CE Primary School

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## Update from Jennett's Park Chair of Governors, January 2026

A warm welcome back after the Christmas & New Year break, despite the cold and stormy start to the year!

### Proposal to Merge Bonitas Trust and Oxford Diocesan School Trust (ODST)

The school has shared [news](#) and [progress](#) updates about the proposed merger, the next phase of which is a formal consultation with parents & carers. I and members of the Governing Body have been heavily involved in the Merger Working Group, contributing to discussions about the future of the Bonitas Trust and identifying ODST as a potential partner. The Merger Working Group believes this represents an excellent opportunity to join a larger trust that aligns closely with Bonitas' vision and values, offers increased opportunities for support and collaboration, and will be beneficial to staff, students, and the wider community. We welcome your views on this proposal, please refer to the most recent [update](#) sent on 8<sup>th</sup> January on how to participate.

### Vision & Values Review

In the Autumn Term we started a review of the school's [Vision & Values](#), which have been in place for 7 years, to ensure that they remain fit for purpose and reflect who we are and what we aspire to. Thank you for those who have shared your views on the two questions we have asked so far:

- 1) How would you describe the values that currently represent our school?
- 2) As partners in your child's learning, what qualities and abilities do you most want them to develop by the time they leave?

We shared your initial responses in this [newsletter](#), with more to come shortly, and we will be asking our next question very soon.

### Upcoming Schools White Paper

The government is due to release a Schools White Paper in early 2026 with a major focus on reforming the Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) system; whilst more broadly setting new expectations for behaviour & attendance and an inclusive environment for all children. Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) were intended for children with the most complex needs. In practice, they have become the gateway to accessing basic support, especially funding and specialist provision. The SEND system is under severe strain due to rising numbers, EHCP overuse, slow & complex processes, capacity shortages, funding shortfalls and inconsistent provisions. A reform of the system is very much needed to ensure that children get the support that they really need.

### Governing Body Changes

I am pleased to welcome Sophie Leggatt as our new Parent Governor following the election in September. It was great to see several people volunteer for the role, highlighting the engagement the school has from our parent community.

I would like to say thank you to Joy Venediktou as she steps down as Staff Governor. I hope to announce her successor in due course.

### Stuart Marlow, Chair of Governors



Claire Willmott, Co-opted Governor



Elizabeth Savage, Headteacher



Revd. Gareth Morley, Foundation Governor



Sophie Leggatt, Parent Governor



Stuart Marlow, Foundation Governor & Chair of Governors



Tessa Parker-Mann, Co-opted Governor



Zeiad Gadelmola, Parent Governor & Vice Chair of Governors

