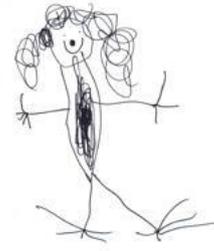


Rachel Keeling Nursery School



Annual Report to Parents from Governors

(September 2018 to July 2019)



Dear Parents,

It is always a joy to visit and talk about Rachel Keeling. As you know, this is a truly special place where the child really does come first. When Ofsted confirmed our Outstanding status last year, they gave us one recommendation: to ensure families continue to develop their understanding of the school's learning philosophy to support children further to become confident, independent and excited life-long learners beyond Rachel Keeling's gates. I'm sure you'll agree that despite the pressures of funding cuts, the school has worked very hard to widen knowledge of Rachel Keeling's learning approach, helping parents, carers and the local community to work together in developing our children's learning in and outside of school. At Rachel Keeling we value our relationships with our families and all staff work hard to foster positive, loving relationships: helping parents to access all that Tower Hamlets can offer in terms of markets, libraries, museums, restaurants, parks and language courses; running parent workshops, Bike It Breakfasts, Male Role Model Day, and sharing so many wonderful celebrations in school that reflect the rich culture of our community. Rachel Keeling has also been involved in working with other settings within Tower Hamlets, England and into Europe and even as far as India, sharing our outstanding practice looking in particular at using Persona Dolls and making the most of outdoor space. Sharing skills always brings something to both parties and our close partnerships with families, carers and other settings in the local community and beyond are essential to helping our children on their journey as life-long learners.

You can always catch up in detail on what your children have been doing - the recent focus on conservation and sustainability is particularly impressive as children reflect on the future of their environment - by looking at the monthly newsletters, or following the brilliant weekly blog written by Becky on our website that also includes a wonderful learning gallery of photographs and a regular update of all the exciting videos made in school. If you aren't a regular visitor to the website please do go to <http://www.rachelkeeling.towerhamlets.sch.uk/> You can find details of school policies, the Self Evaluation Form, the School Development Plan and information on the governors. You can also follow the school on twitter @RachelKeelingN1.

For those of you unsure of what governors do, in accordance with the Government's requirement for all governing bodies, the 3 core strategic functions of the Rachel Keeling Nursery School Governing Body are: to ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction; to hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; to oversee the financial performance of the school and to make sure its money is well spent.

Governors regularly visit the school as part of committee and full governing body meetings, and in addition when we come to follow up specific areas of the school's development plan. You can find out more about our constitution, individual governors and their attendance and visit records on the governor section of the website. In particular, you may find the governor's statement helpful.

If you have any questions about this report or about what governors do in our school, please don't hesitate to ask me or any of the other governors and staff. More information about the school is available on our website where you can look at more of the children's learning, our Self Evaluation Form and policies in more detail. This year we are moving the School Development Plan in line with the school year (rather than the financial year) and the key priorities for Sept 2019-July 2020 will be available on the website by the end of this term.

If your children are about to leave Rachel Keeling, we wish you and your children all the best for the future and urge you to keep in touch.

Thank you to all our parents, carers, governors and staff for your support in ensuring our children are able to make substantive progress in their respective learning journeys. We are outstanding because you all are too.

I hope you enjoy the Summer Trip to the beach and that by then the weather has improved!

Warm regards,

Rebekah Lattin-Rawstrone (Chair of Governors)

July 2019