



**Sir Thomas Abney**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

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## Board of Governors

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all well and staying safe during this difficult time. It is a huge challenge for everyone to adapt to the current circumstances. The staff at Sir Thomas Abney have been doing a stellar job getting work to your children at home and taking care of those who are coming into school. We are grateful to you for everything you are doing to support your children's learning at home. If you have access to Twitter, we recommend you can follow the school on @STAHackney.

The Governing Body of Sir Thomas Abney was asked by Hackney Learning Trust to provide additional expertise and stability to another Hackney school. Harrington Hill Primary School's Headteacher left at the start of the spring term and our Headteacher Geraldine Fitzmaurice was recommended to support the newly formed leadership team at Harrington Hill.

Ms Fitzmaurice has been supporting Harrington Hill since the beginning of this term. During this initial period it has been working well and we are pleased to confirm that the governing bodies of both schools have agreed to form a partnership. This means Ms Fitzmaurice will be Executive Headteacher of both schools and will spend 50% of her time at each school. Ms Maxine Apcher and Ms Lynn Willis will jointly share leadership of Sir Thomas Abney. Ms Rebecca Kennedy will continue as acting Headteacher at Harrington Hill. A Strategic Committee made up of 2 governors from each school and the Executive Headteacher will oversee the partnership. The committee will report back to both governing bodies and to the school communities.

Ms Apcher and Ms Willis are highly experienced leaders and will ensure an excellent standard of education for your children. The school's Ethos and Culture will remain the same. The partnership will provide an opportunity for Sir Thomas Abney and Harrington Hill to learn from each other. For example, staff will have new opportunities to compare teaching strategies and best practice in order to improve provision and the curriculum offer for all pupils. It will also enable both schools to share resources, training and procurement.

As soon as the coronavirus restrictions allow, we will organise a meeting so you can ask us any questions you have about the new partnership. In the meantime if you have any questions please get in touch with governors at:

[governors@sirthomasabney.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:governors@sirthomasabney.hackney.sch.uk)

Regards,

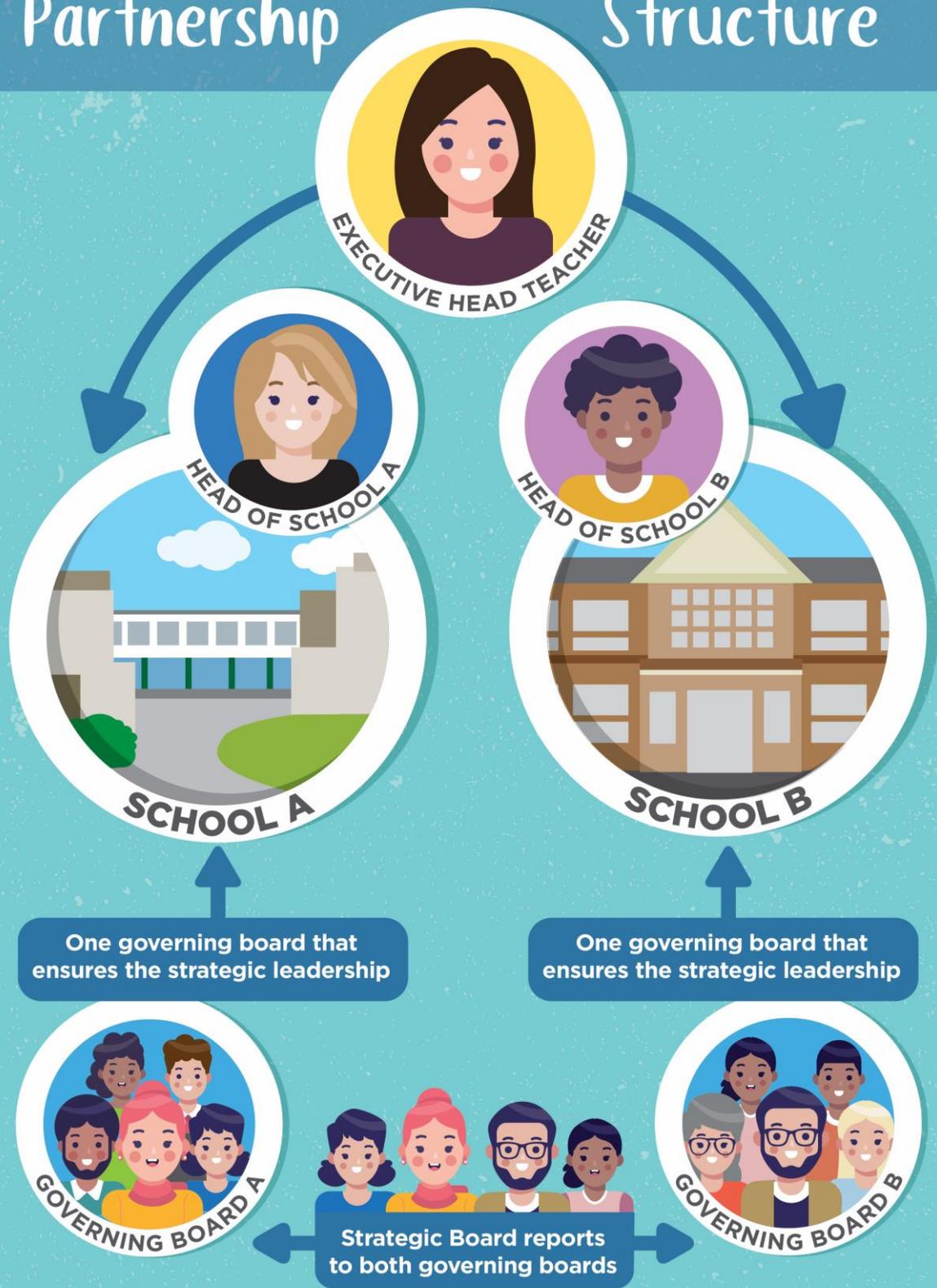
*L Neidich & L Allister*

Lisa Neidich & Leonie Allister  
Joint Chairs of Governors



# Partnership

# Structure



One governing board that ensures the strategic leadership

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Strategic Board reports to both governing boards