



# Coastal Alliance Co-operative Trust

## Standing Together, Together Outstanding

Briary Primary School, Herne Bay High School, Herne Bay Infant School,  
Herne Bay Junior School, Herne Infant C of E School, Herne Junior C of E School,  
Joy Lane Primary School, Reculver C of E School, St Alphege CE Infant School,  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Swalecliffe Community Primary School,  
Westmeads Community Infant School, Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed C of E Junior School,  
Whitstable Junior School

Mr B Cooper, Chair

27<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### Joy Lane School Council – Supporting the local Community in Whitstable and Herne Bay

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter is from the children of Joy Lane Primary School. A similar one will be going out across almost all our local schools in Whitstable and Herne Bay today (CACoT Schools); We really hope that together we can really make a difference.

As you know we have a school council at our school who meet and discuss issues in school and get involved in various projects or organising events. In November, representatives from our school council attended the Coastal Alliance Co-operative Trust Children's Forum at Swalecliffe Primary School.

The aim of the event was to get children involved in contributing to the CACoT Trust Board's future plans by sharing their ideas for how all our schools can work together to support the local community in Whitstable and Herne Bay in these difficult times.

We agreed and voted on some ideas to propose to the Trust Board in January, where three representatives from the forum spoke to the Headteachers and Chairs of Governors present. The board accepted our ideas and some of our local nurseries also agreed to get on board with these ideas too.

**So, we need your help with the first one which will help us support our local food banks and in turn those who they support by downloading the app below:**

Food banks often struggle with effectively communicating their real time supply and demand needs to their donors. Social media posts or notices in supermarkets, quickly go out of date or go unnoticed and as a result, food banks can be inundated with one item or have little of another. Regularly updating their real time needs to their local community, can be a cumbersome admin task, which takes food bank volunteers away from their crucial work of collecting and distributing food.

**BanktheFood** hopes to change this through an innovative free app which links food banks to donors at the most crucial time; when donors are at the supermarket. You can then use the app to keep up to date with what Canterbury Food Bank is most in need of! The app is free to use and always will be.

You can download the app here <https://www.bankthefood.org/>

Thank you so much for your help.

Yours sincerely,

The School Council children of Joy Lane Primary School