

### **Report of Education Committee, April 2023:**

Committee members: Ursula Bowler, Kathy Talbot, Anne Laming, Annabel Barnet, Sarah Conway, Pat Lewis. The committee meets bimonthly using Zoom.

Education is a core activity of OBC. Activities have been directed towards meeting the objectives in the OBC strategic plan “to strengthen the teaching of Bridge (on-line and face-to-face), ensure we have excellent teachers and broaden the reach of Oxford Bridge School”.

Bridge for All lessons for beginners (Year1) and improvers (Year 2) have been provided face-to-face. There are three terms, each consisting of 10 weekly lessons. Around 75 students enrolled in September 2022. There has been a drop off in numbers as the year has progressed but this is in line with previous trends. Feedback is collected midway and on completion of the year so that we can identify any areas for improvement and help teachers to develop their skills. There are currently around 50 students. Free membership of the club is given to BfA students. They are encouraged to attend Learn & Play and Gentle Duplicate sessions and to become involved in other voluntary roles within the club. Attendance at Learn and Play sessions has improved in the latter part of this year. A new session on Saturday afternoon has been set up called Next Steps. It is a social session for students to build confidence in their play and for people returning to Bridge after a break. It has been well supported and enjoyed. Saturday seminars have included Michael Byrne, Andrew Robson, Robert Procter and Peter Litchfield who have all enlightened and entertained us on various topics. This year Education has been able to meet its budgeted annual contribution to OBC.