Durley C of E Primary School

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

Welcome

to our first Governor Newsletter, which we will be circulating each half term to provide parents with regular updates about how the Governing Body are supporting the school to deliver educational excellence. This is part of a wider commitment to promoting the communication between parents and the Governing Body and how we can all help pupils gain opportunities and positive experiences that remain with them for the rest of their lives.

The Department for Education defines the roles for governing bodies as " to provide confident, strategic leadership and to create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance." The three core functions of the governing body are:

Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.

Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff.

Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure it is money well spent.

At Durley School our governing body is made up of 15 governors who all voluntarily offer their time and expertise to support the school. Our Headteacher is also an active member of the Governing Body.

The Governing Body has 6 sub-committees with specific roles and responsibilities. These are:

Curriculum and Standards

Chair of committee - Steve Green

Ensuring the school is offering breadth and balance when delivering the National Curriculum, overseeing arrangements for assessment and monitoring of pupil progress and equal opportunities for pupils. Ensure targets are set for pupil progress and set annual absence targets.

Personnel and Pay Review

Chair of committees - Peter Savill & Chris Taylor

The Personnel Committee ensures policies are in place, up to date and are being followed with regard to safeguarding, recruitment, staff inductions, equal opportunities and staff performance appraisals. The Pay Committee ensures fair and consistent application of the pay policy adopted by the school.

Finance

Chair of committee - Jane Paul

Determine how to spend the budget allocated to the school following recommendations from the Headteacher, agreeing staffing levels, agreeing purchases of goods and services that exceed the Headteachers delegated spending limit. Agree the schools Charging Policy, complete the Internal Control Checklist and monitor spending of the Devolved Capital budget.

Premises

Chair of committee - Holly Wood

Care and maintenance of the school buildings and grounds, health and safety and ensuring the children have a stimulating and safe environment for learning and play.

Headteacher Performance

Chair of committee - Karen Robins

This committee agree and review the Headteacher's performance management objectives for the year. Work together to provide support and appropriate challenge to the Headteacher. The children's learning is always at the heart of the conversations.

Dismissal/Appeals/Complaints

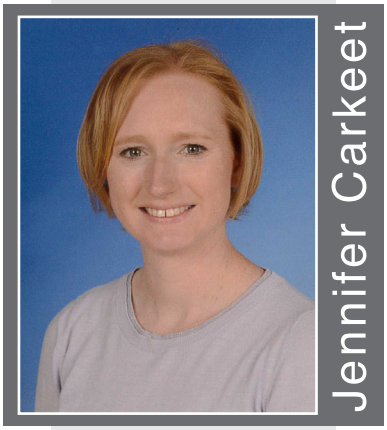
Chair of committee - Steve Green

This is only scheduled as required

To contact the Governing Body, please liaise with the School Office. Alternatively at all school events, Governors will be identifiable by their Durley School Lanyard.

In our future newsletters we will be providing details of what the sub-committees are working towards and how they are supporting the school. We will also be providing a profile about the members of the Governing Board starting with the recently elected Chair of Governors, Jennifer Carkeet, and Vice Chair of Governors, Jane Paul.

Governor Profiles



Jennifer Carkeet

Chair of Governors

My name is Jennifer Carkeet and I was recently voted the Chair of Governors by the Governing Body. I have two children, Isabelle in year 1 and Hugo at Durley Ladybirds Preschool. As a Foundation Governor, I was elected to the Governing Body by the parochial church council and I would like to support the links between the church and school. I was a Chartered Neurological Physiotherapist, which I continued to pursue until Hugo was born, and I now work part time for a property development company.

In my role as Chair of Governors I am very keen to improve the communication between the Governing Body and the parents, children and staff. We want to keep you informed of what we are doing as a Governing Body to support the school, the children and staff. As a Governing Body we are accountable to Ofsted and we are working hard to ensure that we are well prepared for a visit, which is due anytime.

Jane Paul

Vice Chair of Governors

I'm Jane Paul and I was elected Vice Chair of Governors at the latest FGB meeting. I am married with two sons who both attended Durley School. I have recently retired as a District Nurse. I have been a Local Authority appointed governor since 1996, and prior to that was a member of the D.S.A. I have in the past helped to run an after school drama club and was writer and co-producer of the Parent's Pantomime for many years.

I have been a Governor for a long period of time, which has been very varied and interesting. The highlights have been huge improvements to the school premises, especially a school hall, appointing Kirstie Baines as Headteacher and the continuous drive to improve standards and provide an enriched learning experience for pupils. I have worked on every committee over the years and feel very proud to have been Chair of Governors, a role which brings obvious responsibility and to be part of such a hard working team is a privilege. There is always more to achieve and I hope to be able to continue to support the school to ensure that we continue to strive for positive outcomes in all areas of school life.