

Winsford High Street Community School Governing Body Newsletter Summer Term 2018

Welcome to this Governing Body newsletter, the purpose of which is to keep parents informed regarding the activities of the school's Governing Body.



Who are the Governors?

Co-opted Governors are invited onto the Governing Body.

1. Mrs C Anderson (Chair)
2. Mr P Anderson
3. Mrs R Hancock
4. Mr A Morley
5. Mrs C Rose (Vice Chair)

Parent Governors are elected to represent the parents.

6. Mrs C Abbott (Vice Chair)
7. Mrs N Dormer
8. Position Vacant

Staff Governors are voted by the staff of the school.

9. Mrs C Lowe
10. Mrs W Williams

Headteacher

11. Mr M Joule

Headlines

This has been a busy year for the Governing Body. We have been working on several issues relating to the new build as well as more general school matters.

The new building was finished in Summer 2017 and staff and pupils moved into the new facility in September. However, there have been several "snagging" problems which have resulted in meetings with the project managers, architect and contractors in order to resolve all the issues. You will be pleased to hear that these snagging issues are now being dealt with. I am sure you will agree that the new building is a great addition to our school and is a wonderful environment for all staff and pupils.

Our school is a popular one! The Local Authority asked if we would take additional children taking our admission number to 75. Following this request, the Governing Body had discussions to decide if this was the right move for our school. We felt that the environment, space, teaching and support staff were capable of providing a quality education for this number of children. The Governing Body, therefore, made the decision to accept the Authority's request. In September 2018 we will have approximately 75 children joining our school in the three reception classes.

Although this is a Summer Term newsletter, we could not end the year without celebrating the outcome of our Ofsted inspection which took place just before Christmas! The Inspection Team judged our school to be **GOOD** across all areas. They suggested that our building programme showed ambition for the school, that pupils make good progress from their starting points and that success has been achieved throughout the period of the "turbulent change" of the new build.

How to contact us

This newsletter is a different approach to keep you informed about the Governors' work and we are keen to receive your views and opinions. Is there anything you'd like to know more about? Have you ideas you'd like the Governing Body to consider? Then please get in touch!

admin@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk

You can contact the Governors by writing or emailing us at the school. We may first discuss matters with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors before issues are considered by the full Governing Body.

Governor Link Visits

Each School Governor has the role of being a Link Governor for a particular subject in the curriculum or a particular area such as Special Educational Needs. This involves meeting throughout the year with the Subject Leader to ensure that requirements set out in the School Development Plan are implemented, monitored and reviewed appropriately. Below is an outline of some items covered in some visits.

- **Assessment** – Chris Anderson
 - Discussion of progress and attainment of children.
 - Groups of children who are not meeting expected standards will be monitored carefully.
- **Nursery** – Chris Abbott
 - Lots of training has taken place with all staff having completed paediatric First Aid and food hygiene training.
 - Parental involvement – There is a home visit prior to starting in nursery, a parents' evening to explain the online learning journey, Christmas hat making and the nativity production.

School Aims and Values

"Striving to achieve"

Working together to succeed

The school community aims that all children:

- Are happy and develop confidence.
- Are literate and numerate, aspiring to reach their full potential.
- Are independent thinkers and lifelong learners.
- Value themselves and celebrate the achievements of all.
- Recognise and respect differences in others.
- Take responsibility for themselves and the community.

The objectives of our school are:

- To educate the whole child within an effective learning community through stimulating learning styles and the delivery of the relevant curriculum
- To maintain and enhance a positive physical environment that promotes and reinforces the wellbeing, safety and inclusion of all individuals.
- To maintain professional and open communication ensuring the continual involvement of the wider school community.
- To establish high expectations which value enterprise and effort.
- To build leadership and management skills for all members of the school community to enhance learning.

- **Maths** – Rene Hancock

- Progress and attainment discussed.
- Training for staff to be held related to teaching maths reasoning skills.
- Looking at online learning tools to help children learn times tables.

These are just a few of the Link Governor meetings held and just some of the topics discussed at those meetings to give you a flavour of the kind of work Governors do.

Governor Involvement

In addition to regularly attending meetings to support the running of the school, we also like to become involved in supporting the learning of the children.

This year members of the governing board have accompanied teachers and children on some of their visits. This is a pleasurable part of our role and ensures that we are fully conversant with day to day activities. In addition members of the board have met with pupil representatives to discuss their views on the school and help us to consider future developments.

During the coming year we will be visiting children on their residential visits and supporting teachers on day visits. We also intend to meet with the school council and pupil representatives to discuss their views on the school.

Furthermore we intend to visit school during parent / teacher consultation evenings to gather your views on the service being provided.

Please consider:

Parent Governors serve on the Governing Body as representative parents and not as the parents' delegate.

Therefore while we want to be aware of the views and ideas of parents in general, parent governors are not expected to seek parents' approval for their actions.

If you want to discuss your child's education then your first point of contact is with your child's class teacher.

Should you feel that the matter you have discussed with the class teacher has not been dealt with then you may wish to contact a member of the senior leadership team; Should they not be able to address the matter then it may be applicable to contact the Head teacher.

The school has a complaints procedure, details of which can be obtained from the school office.

Summer Term Governors' Meetings

We have two Committees within our Governing Body:

Resources Committee – this committee looks over staffing in school, the finances of the school and general resources that school requires.

Environment Committee – this committee looks over the structure of the school in terms of the land and the buildings, health and safety and security.

In our Committee Meetings this summer we covered areas such as:-

- Budget review and setting of the budget in March for the forthcoming year.
- Resolving issues related to the new build.
- Staffing changes.
- Data protection in light of new laws.

At the beginning of the Summer Term one of our Parent Governors, Mrs Stacy Simpson, stepped down due to her family relocating. We would like to thank Stacy for her dedication during her time as Governor.

<p>The Work of the Governors</p> <p>The Governing Body work closely with the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to make decisions to ensure that all the pupils receive the best possible education.</p> <p>The role of the governing body can be summarised into 3 key roles:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ensuring that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined; 2. ensuring that the head teacher performs his responsibilities for the educational performance of the school; 3. ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources. <p>In order to fulfil these requirements the Governing Body works to support and, sometimes, challenge the Headteacher and the SLT so that the school's aims and values are maintained and developed.</p> <p>The Governors role is one of a strategic nature. The day-to-day running of the school is the sole responsibility of the Headteacher.</p>	<p>Around School</p> <p>It has been great to see new members of staff settle into our school so well and begin to make a fantastic contribution. In September we welcome Miss McCabe, Miss Phillips and Miss Baker to the teaching team. It will also be great to welcome back Mrs Coleman and Miss Guppy following their periods of maternity leave.</p> <p>Unfortunately, two of our apprentices made the decision that this was not the job for them. So we are currently advertising for three new Teaching Assistant apprentices and one caretaker apprentice.</p> <p>As ever, we would like to thank all members of staff, whatever their role, for taking good care of our children this year.</p>
<p>School Contact Details:</p> <p>Headteacher: Mr Mark Joule: head@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk</p> <p>Chair of Governors: chair@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk</p> <p>Winsford High Street Community Primary School, High Street, Winsford, CW9 5AU Telephone: 01606 288188</p> <p>Email: admin@highstreet.cheshire.sch.uk</p> <p>Website: www.winsfordhighstreetprimary.co.uk</p> <p>Twitter: https://twitter.com/highstprimary</p>	<p>Parents' Group</p> <p>The Governors would like to formally thank the Winsford High Street Parent Teacher Association for their continued support.</p> <p>This group have run a number of fundraisers throughout the year. These have been well received and attended. They have recently made a donation of £3,000 toward the cost of the new seating in the theatre and the new library.</p> <p>We would urge you to become involved, as many hands make light work! So if you would like to help at the Winsford High Street Parent Teacher Association then please contact the school office who will pass on your details to the committee.</p> <p>And finally ...</p> <p>May we take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful summer break.</p> <p>The Governors and all of the school staff are dedicated to ensuring that all our children are safe, well supported, achieve their potential and enjoy school. If you have any concerns, or if you have something which you are pleased about, then let us know. The Governors and the school welcome your comments and suggestions, and your feedback is extremely important to us.</p>