

Governors' News – July 2010



SCHOOL PROFILE

It used to be the law that governing bodies had to produce a Governors' Annual Report and to hold an annual parents' meeting. It was thought this ensured governing bodies were accountable to parents and gave parents an opportunity to have their say on any issues which concern them. In reality, meetings were often poorly attended by a handful of parents, if any. Good schools have dynamic and immediate relationships with parents. Formal annual meetings are ineffective and unnecessary.

Since the Education Bill 2005 the Governors' Annual Report and annual parents' meetings have been replaced with the **School Profile**.

It is a requirement that this Profile is published on the UK government website:
www.direct.gov.uk

It is also available on the school website:
www.sendfirstschool.co.uk

The School Profile has just been FRESHLY UPDATED. We encourage you to read it online or ask for a copy from school.



GOVERNING WHAT?

Governors play an important role in the leadership and management of the school. Working with the head teacher and staff, governors are charged with the responsibility of embedding ambition and driving improvement.

The effectiveness of the governing body in challenging and supporting the school so that weaknesses are tackled decisively and statutory responsibilities met is one of the aspects that is regularly inspected and judged by the Office for Standards in Education (OFSTED).



MEETINGS

Much of the governors' work is done in meetings. The full governing body meets once each term, committees more often. We share most of our responsibilities in three main committees:

- **Learning & Achievement**
This committee ensures each child is learning and continually raising their standards of attainment.
- **Effectiveness and Efficiency**
This committee ensures sound management of finance and other resources. In November, the school was awarded the Financial Management Standard in Schools.
- **Safety and Well Being**
This committee ensures each child, member of staff and visitor is safe and that every child thrives.



LINKS AND VISITS

Governors are linked to classes and visit by arrangement with teachers.

Governors' Class Links Sep 2009 – July 2010

Nursery (Beehive)
Tony Shutt

Reception (Rabbit)
Grant Walker

Reception (Hedgehog)
Jo West

Year 1 (Otter)
Ian Holmes

Year 1 (Squirrel)
Rowena Brooker

Year 2 (Badger)
Michelle Jamieson

Year 2 (Foxes)
Ros Ebdon

Observation Weeks

Governors visited the school in October, February and June to observe and discuss learning outcomes, classroom management and to join in class activities. Visits improve our understandings and help us become more effective in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of the school in enabling children to achieve.

TELL US ... ASK US

We welcome any comments and questions about the school from parents, children, staff and members of the community. As governors we want to do all we can to make improvements to every aspect of our school, so please tell us and ask us.



GOVERNOR COMINGS, GOINGS & APPOINTMENTS

Peter Sheppard retired in July 2009 after 20 years service to the school, often as Chair of Governors.

Grant Walker was appointed by Surrey County Council as a local authority governor in July 2009.

Andy Hill, resigned as a community governor in September 2009.

Tim Bruton was appointed as a community governor in January 2010.

Daniel Ventham was appointed as a community governor in April 2010.

Tony Shutt, foundation governor, was elected Chair of Governors and appointed Chair of the Safety and Well Being Committee in October 2009.

Ros Ebdon, parent governor, was elected Vice-Chair of Governors in October 2009.

Ian Holmes, parent governor, was re-appointed Chair of the Learning and Achievement Committee in October 2009.

Michelle Jamieson, foundation governor, was appointed Chair of the Effectiveness and Efficiency Committee in October 2009.

WHO'S WHO

There are 14 governors appointed by various 'stakeholders', usually for a term of office of four years.

As well as working in committees and through class links, governors also monitor certain curriculum subjects, special educational needs, safeguarding and other detailed aspects.

PARENT GOVERNORS

5 Elected by parents

Ian Holmes



Ros Ebdon



Jo West



Rowena Brooker



Lisa Scott



FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

2 Appointed by the Church of England Diocese of Guildford

Tony Shutt



Michelle Jamieson



STAFF GOVERNORS

2 Chosen by teachers or other staff

Rachel Richards



Janet Manktelow



HEADTEACHER

Ex officio

Simon Hobbs



LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNORS

2 Appointed by Surrey County Council

Lindsey Jarman



Grant Walker



COMMUNITY GOVERNORS

2 Appointed by Governing Body

Tim Bruton



Daniel Ventham



CLERK

Appointed by Governing Body

Caroline Leary



CONTACT US

It may be easiest for governors to be contacted via the Clerk, Caroline Leary, who is also the School Bursar and is based in School - Tel. 223464. But you can also contact individual governors or get in touch with me directly:

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Chair of Governors
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