

Governors' report – Summer Term 2015

Our most urgent task this term has been to change the structure of the governing body to bring it into line with other schools in Telford and Wrekin. We are now a smaller body but still keen to do our best for John Randall School and the wider community of Madeley. Besides our regular visits to lessons and other events in school, we intend to meet twice a term now. We will use the extra time to ask more questions, monitor and evaluate more work done in school and report back to the whole group. This should give us all an even better understanding of what is needed to help the school continue to move forward.

As Governors, we have to:

Ensure that funding for the school is carefully managed and wisely spent for the benefit of all pupils.

We have signed off the Budget for last year and carried over some money to the new budget agreed for 2014-2015. Our aim has been to keep our staff numbers stable to maintain the range of support for the children, and to make sure that the school environment remains safe and in good condition, but also interesting and attractive. (We recently received a 5* rating for a Local Authority Environmental Survey of Breakfast Club done in March)

Be responsible for the vision of the school by ensuring that high standards of teaching produce good learning experiences in a safe and stimulating atmosphere.

In April, we worked with all the staff to write the new School Development Plan (SDP). We used a range of data and feedback from our monitoring to help identify the school's strengths and areas for development. This was used to create targets for progress with clear action plans, details of staff responsibilities and monitoring procedures for the next school year.

Ensure that statutory obligations are fulfilled through policies and procedures that are regularly reviewed and updated.

The focus this term reflects the wider community's concern with behaviour that can be unsafe for children in and out of school. The policies have looked at ways to deal with difficult behaviour in school and the reasonable use of force when a child's behaviour may put others at risk. Some pupils have also helped Mrs Pugh, the Learning Mentor, to produce a child-friendly version of the school anti-bullying policy. In addition, the whole staff has had training on safeguarding children from extremism and all governors have had access to the reading materials for the training. Money has also been set aside to pay for staff and governors' police (CRB) checks to be updated to the new (DBS) checking system over the next few months.

Help and support the Head teacher in her work but also to hold her to account for the school's educational progress.

Two governors have completed an interim review of the school progress targets that were set for the Head in November and everything is going well. This will be reviewed in November. The website is being monitored by a governor and some minor adjustments have been made to improve it.

We have appointed another teacher to make it possible for the Deputy Head to supervise a new system of recording progress without National Curriculum levels next school year. All the governors have been involved in various training sessions this term – including training to be a chairperson, Health and Safety issues in school, Finance and Human Resources, Headteacher Appraisal and updating SEN procedures.

And Finally...

The governors would like to congratulate the staff and pupils on the KS2 SAT results that have just come into school. The results are good again this year and above the National floor standard benchmarks for pupils across the country. Thank you for all your hard work!

Mr David Edwards stepped down from the Governing body this term after 40 years association with our school and Year 6 invited him into school for a celebration party. They enjoyed his stories and the cakes were delicious. Mrs Pugh and Mr Ian Hartley also stepped down as governors and we thank them very much for all their help.

To find out more about the members of the Governing body, please visit our school website. There are short pen portraits for each of us.

