



Blakedown C.E. Primary School

Governor Newsletter – May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hello, as I write this some pupils will be doing their end of year tests and we wish them all the best in these and their own personal learning journeys.

Governors use visits to the school, data from pupil assessment throughout the year and staff reports to see how the school is progressing with delivering learning to all our pupils. Blakedown School prides itself on the broad curriculum it delivers and the care it takes of its pupils physically, emotionally and academically. We can see this with the involvement of the school in the wider community, the progress made in physical education and the music taking place in the school. The children's understanding of the wider world and the range of religions and beliefs held by the population in Britain and the wider world was recognised by the recent outstanding inspection by the Worcester Diocese.

The PTA and parents continuously make valuable contributions to the school community and I would like to thank you all for your support, financial and voluntary. At the beginning of the year we also received significant financial support from the Norman Dawson Trust for the construction of a new fence. May I take this opportunity to again thank the trustees for their support.

The regular newsletter from Mrs Beckford-Bond via Parent-mail contains news for the staff and pupils during term time. In the background, the Governing body also has a timetable of meetings and events that Governors attend to be able to strategically plan and monitor the work of the school using our vision statement and strategic priorities. Minutes for all these meetings are available on the school's website.

If you are interested in becoming a Governor or know of others who might like to support the work of school, have any other questions about governance or the school in general please approach the clerk to the Governors Kate Neal Smith knealsmith@hotmail.co.uk or Mrs Beckford-Bond.

Freda Griffith – Chair of Governors.

Governor activity 2017 -2018

Since a trial last year, we have been using the school website to store and access all Governor meeting minutes, agendas, policy documents and all other information for meetings and school visits.

There have been:

- Four Full Governing Body meetings
- Nine Strategy Team meetings (approx. one per month, term time)
- Three Learning and Development committee meetings and four Resources Committee meetings
- Pay and Performance committee meeting
- Various training sessions (including on line and those shared with other local school's Governors)
- Diocese meetings and training
- Meetings with subject leaders, SENCo, and safeguarding checks. Regular Chair and Headteacher meetings
- Meetings with the School Advisor and their Area Team Manager, SIAM's inspector, External Governance Review officer,
- School visits, learning walks, assemblies, educational visit volunteering, Parent's evenings and meetings, and meeting school support. This year has seen an improvement in attendance and reporting of visits. Governors are assigned a cohort to visit and follow through the school, learning about their progression.
- Speaking to staff both employed and outsourced: for example IT support, PE teachers and cycling safety teachers
- Introducing interviewing and references for Governor positions
- Retirement and appointment of new office staff, interviewing for other Teaching, Teaching Assistant, Lunch Supervisor, and other school roles.