

Governors Newsletter

Church Vale School has small but very committed governing body. Speaking to members of our school community I am aware that not everybody will understand how or what the governing body of a school actually does, so I thought I would write this short newsletter to try to explain.

We are responsible for setting and monitoring some key areas of school leadership and activity. This includes the curriculum, school finance, and performance management systems. We also review data to see if the school is meeting key national and local targets. We also recognise the importance of children developing the necessary skills to develop as independent learners and responsible member of our school and local communities.

Over the last two years and despite the issues caused by Covid the school has developed a new curriculum plan. We recognise the hard work of the teaching staff in developing the resources needed to implement this programme.

Parents, Partners and Policies

In order to provide the best care and education for your child it is important that parents/ carers and the school, work positively together. We ensure the school has policies for they how they manage day to day issues including behaviour. These are developed to be consistent with Nottinghamshire County Council guidelines. These policies are available on the website.

It is really important to note that the governors do not have the day to day management of the school. This is the responsibility of the Headteacher and her senior leadership team. Governors can not investigate any initial concerns, misunderstandings or complaints. Again, you will be advised to follow the school complaints procedure (available on the website) and raise your concerns with school staff in the first instance. Please do this in an appropriate manner. We have a duty to protect children and staff on our site and we will not tolerate verbal or physical aggression toward members of our school community. We would not hesitate to support the school if this requirement is not met.

The school budget has been used to support a range of priorities despite Nottinghamshire being one of the less well funded local authorities. Staffing is obviously the highest cost, and the school has continued to recruit teachers and TA's to meet the needs of our pupils and this remains our number one priority. However, we have also supported improvements to school infrastructure such as new ceilings, IT and developments in the playground.

As governors we often visit school (or in covid times via Zoom) to monitor and support the school development plan. This can involve meeting teaching staff, teaching assistants, discussions with parents or with pupils.

As I mentioned at the start of the newsletter, we are a small governing body. We would welcome more members of our local community who feel they could contribute to our school, joining our

governing body. There is always a role for parent governors but also if you know of someone who has the time or motivation to join us even if they currently have no connection to the school, we would welcome them contacting the headteacher, or any other governor to arrange a discussion about our roles.

We are particular short at the moment of people with skills in finance.

Martin Lloyd

Chair Of Governors