



The Brook School Governor Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

Issue 3 - Summer 2016

As we come to the end of yet another successful, exciting and busy school year at The Brook School, we would like to celebrate the many achievements of our amazing children. At The Brook School we are very fortunate to have such a dedicated, talented and hardworking staff team led by Miss Dowley, who are always seeking to improve learning and teaching for the benefit of the pupils - and to make it exciting. I have been a local authority appointed governor of The Brook since 2009, taking the Chair last September 2015, and the consistency of the commitment and passion of teachers, teaching assistants and support staff over these seven years has never ceased to amaze me.

Our lovely Year 2's will be leaving us, and we wish them well in their future education. At the same time we welcome our new Nursery and Reception intake. As governors we will be taking a great interest in how they are settling in, and hope that the induction system we have has proved beneficial.

We would like to thank Julie Burt, who has stepped down from the governing body, for her invaluable support over the years. We welcome Eileen Sanderson and Karen Flowers as Co-Opted Governors and I hope you will join me in congratulating them on becoming governors at The Brook.

All school Governors are volunteers and aim to provide a strong link between the school, parents/carers and the local community. Our Governing Body structure allows for two staff governors (including the Head Teacher), one local authority governor, two parent governors and seven co-opted governors (one of whom is an additional staff governor, and others co-opted from the community).

Who we are...

Stuart Maclean,
Authority Governor and
Chairman of Governors

Sandy Tong
Co-Opted Governor and Vice
Chair of Governors

Fiona Dowley
Staff Governor and
Headteacher

Liz Hogan
Parent Governor

Daniel Mitchelmore
Parent Governor

Lisa Tynan
Co-Opted Governor

Reverend Steve Burston
Co-Opted Governor

Eileen Sanderson
Co-Opted Governor

Karen Flowers
Co-Opted Governor

Charlotte Reed
Staff Governor

Lou Hack
Associate Member

Emma Taylor
Clerk to Governors

Governors do not need to be educational experts - other skills are welcomed and valued. With the possibility of becoming an academy in the future (whether the government insist or not) we would always welcome interest from people with clear business management experience. We have no powers as individuals, and our authority is exercised collectively. Our responsibilities are managed through two committees (resources and premises, and curriculum) who meet at least once each term and report back to the full Governing Body at least three times a year.

The school Governors make regular visits to the school and examine reports, data, and policies closely. We ask questions to understand how and why things are done and we challenge in a supportive way. We are actively seeking new ways of sharing ideas, experience and data with other schools to help the school, and us as a Governing Body, identify and implement best practice. The focus of the Governing Body's work is directed by school's priorities as set out in the School Development Plan. In all our work we are mindful of our main aim: ensuring that your children receive the best education possible in a safe and secure environment, learning, growing and succeeding throughout their years at the school. We make decisions about school policy, review existing policies, evaluate data, track the progress of the School Development Plan, keep up to date with events in school, agree premises development and carefully monitor the school budget. We cannot do this without a huge input from staff, and we are always thinking of ways to improve our performance in the school's drive to move from Good (Ofsted Sept 2013) back to Outstanding, which we believe we are.

Schools are fascinating places that change and grow. It is very rewarding to be part of this process of 'Learning with Love and Laughter', and to be investing in the education of the next generation.

Stuart Maclean
Chair of Governors

Are you interested in becoming a Governor? Contact us via the school or email us on governors@brook.w-sussex.sch.uk
All our newsletters are available on the school website www.brook.w-sussex.sch.uk

Feedback form



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Please return the feedback form to the School Office for the attention of Emma Taylor, Clerk to Governors or via email at governors@brook.w-sussex.sch.uk