



The Brook School Governor Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers

Issue 5 - Summer 2018

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.

We were delighted with the recent Ofsted report and all the wonderful and positive comments that the Inspectors made. They were particularly impressed by our children and just how amazing they are. They referred to them as 'confident and excited learners' who clearly love being at school and who treat each other and adults with respect. A massive THANK YOU to all the staff and Miss Dowley for making The Brook a fantastic place to learn.

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 been beneficial.

The close of the academic year and the start of a new one always brings change. The Governing body had to say goodbye and a big thank you for her invaluable support to Sandy Tong, who stepped down as Chair of Governors. We also said goodbye to Liz Hogan and we thank her for her contribution to the Governing Body. We welcomed Ian Taylor and Grant Taylor as Co-Opted Governors. 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 from the community).

Who we are...

Karen Flowers
Co-opted Governor and
Chairman of Governors

Fiona Dowley
Headteacher

Daniel Mitchelmore
Parent Governor and
Chair of Resources &
Premises Committee

Simone Beazley
Co-Opted Governor and
Chair of Curriculum
Committee

Hannah Witham
Staff Governor

Tracy Gidman
Support Staff Governor

Ian Taylor
Co-Opted Governor

Grant Taylor
Co-Opted Governor

Louise Hack
Deputy Headteacher and
Associate Member

Emma Taylor
Clerk to Governors

Governors do not need to be educational experts as all other skills are welcomed and valued. We have no powers as individuals and our authority is exercised collectively. Our responsibilities are managed through two committees. The Resources and Premises committee looks after finance, premises, health & safety, staffing and pupil welfare. The Curriculum committee is responsible for overseeing curriculum development. The committees 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.

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.

The governors would like to say a huge thank you to parents and carers for their support which helps make our school such a friendly and warm community. I am very proud to be part of it.

Karen Flowers
Chair of Governors



Are you interested in becoming a Governor? Contact us at 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