



Governor Update

September 2009

HELLO..... from the Governors!

Now that the new school year is well under way we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and our role to you, and to give you a brief idea of the work we do.

Strategic Role

The main purpose of the governing body is school improvement. We have a responsibility for setting the direction of the school and its ethos. Last year we were involved with the development of the school's Vision & Values – we very much enjoyed working together with the staff on this. We are involved in the school's financial and staffing decisions, as well as issues relating to the curriculum and premises. In each of these matters we have certain statutory responsibilities.

Management

We work closely with David Forrester who, as Head Teacher, is responsible for the school's management – governors are not involved in the day-to-day running of the school. Our aim is to both support and challenge the school on a wider strategic level.

Organisation

Decisions are made as a corporate body, rather than by individual governors. The full governing body (FGB) comprises:-

4 foundation governors (appointed by the church)

6 parent governors (appointed by the parents)

3 staff governors (including the Head)

2 community governors

2 LA governors

Business

There are 6 FGB meetings per year – normally these take place on Thursday evenings and last for about 2 hours. Each governor is also a member of a sub-committee (Curriculum & Monitoring, Staffing & Finance, Premises) and some take on additional specific roles or responsibilities. Our meetings are recorded by a clerk, who handles a lot of our organisation and administration.

Experience and Training

Each governor brings their own different experience, skills and personality to the full governing body. No specific experience is necessary – new skills and knowledge are acquired "on-the-job" and through governor training courses.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We are currently looking for two new parent governors. A separate letter and nomination form will be sent home for your attention. If you are interested but would like to find out more, have a chat with one of the existing governors – see above for details – or check out one of these websites:

www.pucklechurchprimaryschool.co.uk/governors.htm

www.southglosgovernors.org

www.southglos.gov.uk (search on 'governors')

WHO'S WHO?

Chair:

Chris Moore

Vice-chair:

Andy Woods

Clerk:

Sheila Smart

Foundation Governors:

Rev. Stuart Young

Pauline Alway

Chris Moore

James Gardner

Parent Governors:

Rebecca Toms

Rachel Goodchild

Andy Woods

Jon Bence

Staff Governors:

David Forrester

David Pool

Sharon Corney

Community Governors:

Angela Hallett

Debbie Jeffrey

LA Governors:

Phil Wheatley

Tim Small

GETTING IN TOUCH

You are likely to see some of the governors in and around school and we are happy to talk with parents about general school matters. Please remember, however, that individual governors are not able to deal with specific concerns relating to the day-to-day management of the school. Matters relating to pupils should be raised firstly with the class teacher and then, if necessary, with the Head. Any formal communication with the governors should be addressed to the Chair and delivered via the school office.