

Governors' Newsletter



Chair's Word – Graham Cole

I'm really pleased to bring you our first Governor Newsletter. It's the aim of our school's governing body to improve communication and links between governors, parents, staff and children. I am hoping this newsletter will meet part of this aim.

On this first newsletter we plan to share with you who the governors are and what we do. We are a pretty friendly bunch. Two of us are teachers, two are parents and three of us are also volunteers around the school for reading and minibus driving. Please feel free to stop any one of us with any question you might have about the school. If we don't know the answer then and there, we'll know someone who does. Or you can write to me or any of us – just hand your letter into the office.

I am passionate about the school's progress and nearly as passionate about improving my tennis! In addition to the listed governors overleaf our formal termly meetings are minuted by our clerk, Joanne Phillips. We also meet regularly for training and for progress meetings with school's Senior Leadership Team plus classroom 'walks'.



Silkmore Primary Academy
Exeter Street
Stafford ST17 4EG
01785 333930

What is the role of a Governor?

Governors are a group of volunteers who include parents, staff and members of our local community. Our main role is to promote ongoing improvements in standards throughout the school under the REACH 2 Multi Academy Trust for the West Midlands. We help the headteacher and staff plan the school's long term direction and we evaluate progress. We help to set the school's aims and values and are responsible for some staff appointments, including in cooperation the REACH 2 Board, the headteacher. Many of our responsibilities carry a statutory requirement. This means we are obliged by law to do such things as agree the annual budget.

Our role is sometimes described as a 'critical friend'. This does not mean we are there to criticise the school but instead to ask challenging questions to gain a greater understanding of the school and to foster an ethos of continuous improvement.

What have we done?






Since the School joined the Multi Academy Trust we have recruited a new team of governors and, within the team, appointed the key link roles of finance, safeguarding and attainment. We have met each term and reviewed the excellent standards and achievement data for the children, attending the pupil progress meetings with the staff. We have monitored the spending against the budget and approved the budget for next year.

We have fully supported the expansion of the school numbers and are working with ways to expand accommodation next year.

We have also monitored Behaviour and Safeguarding and are very pleased to see the high standards of the children in the classroom and the corridors. And we really appreciate the hard work the staff have put in bringing the learning adventures with The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe last term and now Harry Potter this term.

Who`s Who

Our governors are all volunteers and give up their skills, experience and time for free in order to help and support our school.

	Name	Role	Link to School
	Graham Cole	Chair of Governors, Trust appointed Curriculum Link governor	Rotary Reading Group Minibus Driver
	Peter Marsden	Vice Chair, Trust appointed Safeguarding lead	Previous pupil. Ex chair of governors.
	Keith Rogers	Co-opted Governor Finance link governor	Rotary Reading Group
	Liz Lunnon	Co-opted Governor Link governor for Health & Safety	Ex School Office manager
	Kelly Rhodes	Parent Governor – Elected Link governor for EYFS	Son in Year 1
	John Boden	Parent Governor – Elected Link Governor for Website	Son in Year 4
	Duncan Birds	Trust appointed Link Governor for Attainment	Headteacher at Willows Primary School
	Sarah Mills	Staff Governor	Executive Headteacher
	Becky Pendlebury	Support Staff Governor	Business Manager
	Joanna Connelly	Staff Governor	Deputy Head of School

Finally, do hope to see you all at the Summer Fare on Friday July 14th from 3.30pm – 5.30pm. There will be loads of stalls and plenty to see do and eat!