



Governor Newsletter Autumn Term 2016

Welcome to our first Governors Newsletter. We hope to provide you with a termly update of the work of the Governing Body. In this first edition we will introduce ourselves and tell you about some of our responsibilities. In future editions we will be sharing with you information about our current work. One of our aims as governors is to improve our contact with parents and carers and to raise the awareness of the work we do. In the parents survey last term you said that you were concerned about bullying, so we held a parents forum for parents and carers to help us promote friendships. The children's survey suggested that they would like more things to do at breaktimes. As a result of these two issues Mrs Higgins will be asking for your help to make breaktimes a really positive experience and improve relationships. Hopefully with the introduction of our newsletter you will have a better understanding of who we are and what we do.

Member	Type of Governor	Area of responsibility
Anthony Bradbury	Chair of Governors Parent Governor	Special Needs
Yvonne Chenery	Staff Governor	Early Years
Simon Freeland	Parent Governor	Health and Safety
Natalie Paine	Parent Governor	Pupil Premium and Vulnerable children
James Hughes	Parent Governor	Governor Training
Karen Jackson	Co-opted Governor	Safeguarding
Maggie Ford	Co-opted Governor	School Council
Andy Murray	Co-opted Governor	Single Equality and Diversity
Will Sutton	Co-opted Governor	Governor Links
Fred Yeulett	Local Authority	Finance
Maria-Anne Higgins	Ex Officio	Headteacher

What Does The Governing Body Do?

The school governors play a key role in the life of Nightingale Primary School. The governing body is drawn from the school's various stakeholders including parents, staff and the local community. It has important legal powers and has strategic oversight of the school and its activities.. The role of the governing body includes:

- Promoting high standards of achievement
- Providing robust monitoring and evaluation of the School's performance
- Overseeing all aspects of school governance
- Ensuring that the school's finances are managed and impact upon learning
- Offering support and challenge to the Head teacher and staff
- Involvement in senior level staffing and building matters.

Governance Structure

The governing body meets twice a term in the Autumn and Summer terms and once in the Spring term. Additionally it has two sub-committees which meet termly with a focus on: 'Standards' and 'Resources'. Smaller ad-hoc committees meet annually or as necessary.

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee considers issues relating to finance, personnel and pay, health and safety, the school premises and resources generally. The Committee reports back to the Full Governing Body on these issues via the minutes of its meetings and at meetings of the Full Governing Body.

Standards Committee

The Standards Committee provides a forum for governors to contribute to the preparation and monitoring of those aspects of the School Development Plan and the School Self Evaluation that are concerned with teaching and learning. It also assists the decision making of the full governing body by engaging in more detailed consideration of teaching and learning issues relating to all pupils, in particular 'Enjoying and achieving' and 'Economic wellbeing'.

Punctuality and Attendance

The main attraction for all of us in volunteering for this role as governors is your amazing children. The children of Townley are fantastic and have limitless potential and capabilities to achieve wonderful things in their lives. It's the School and its staff's privilege to be part of their individual journeys, but they can only have an impact on their learning if your children are physically here.

One of the key areas for improvement at the school is attendance and punctuality. It has been widely proven that outstanding attendance = outstanding achievement. Being punctual and having good attendance is a skill which is vitally important in this school, for their secondary schooling, further and/or higher education and then eventually employment.

Below is information on what your child misses every day they are absent. We appreciate there are many reasons for absence and if any families need any help in this area they can contact the school in confidence or Emily Moore, Educational Welfare Officer for our school.

Absence Statistics

98% Attendance = 4 Days missed off School 95% = 10 Days missed off School

90% = 19 Days missed off School

80% = 38 Days missed off School

We value the continued support of all our parents and with the School we encourage direct, open and honest communication with parents. If as a parent you wish to discuss any school related matters, please contact the School directly via office@townley.cambs.sch.uk. If you wish to discuss the Governing Body you can contact them through the school office.