



Widmer End Community Combined School and Pre-School

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2022

A GREAT START TO THE TERM

At the beginning of this year, four governors were able to attend the INSET day with staff to explore how the school's values can be brought to life. It was a very interesting and engaging session, and we were delighted to be part of it. If you haven't already seen the illustration that is now in the entrance hall to the school, please look out for it the next time you are visiting. It is a fantastic reminder of what Widmer End stands for.

The day also provided a great opportunity to see staff face-to-face again. As restrictions continue to ease, all governors are looking forward to getting back into school on a more regular basis. There will be more opportunities for parents to meet governors too. In the meantime, if you would like to contact us, please send an email to chairofgovernors@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk or send a message via the School Office.

MONITORING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

One of the key functions of the governing board is to hold the head teacher and senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the school. We were very pleased to welcome Mrs Rouse, the new Deputy Headteacher, to a recent meeting when she shared exciting plans for the future of teaching and learning. We look forward to monitoring the implementation of these plans for the curriculum and to welcoming other members of staff to future meetings to speak about the subject areas for which they are responsible.



PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Another of the responsibilities of the governing board is to monitor the school's policies and check that they are fit for purpose. We have recently reviewed and updated the [Parent Code of Conduct](#). It is up to us all to set a good example for the children by modelling positive behaviour. If you have not already done so, please familiarise yourself with this very important document. Parents and carers visiting the school and interacting with staff are expected to comply with the Code of Conduct at all times.

NEW GOVERNOR ON BOARD



We are delighted that Martin Skitt has joined the board as our newest parent governor. Martin has three children at the school and has business experience in finance which will be invaluable.

BECOMING A GOVERNOR

We currently have one vacancy for a co-opted governor. Co-opted governors are people from the local community who are interested in helping to run our school.

In particular, we are keen to recruit a governor with **experience in HR or in governance**. If you know anyone with either of these skills who would like to volunteer, please ask them to send an email requesting more information to: chairofgovernors@widmerend.bucks.sch.uk.

All governors are elected for up to four years at a time. Parent governors are able to complete their term even if their child leaves the school before the four years have finished. There are no current vacancies for parent governors but we are always keen to hear from parents who would like to know more about what the Governing Board does and who may be interested in becoming a governor in the future. If you'd like an informal chat about becoming a governor, please contact Laura Air at the above email address.

Vacancy

GOVERNOR VISITS TO THE SCHOOL

Although we have still been operating under reduced contact, governors have continued to meet with staff in safe ways, and this term have undertaken visits to monitor the following areas: safeguarding, Pupil Premium, school swimming, health & Safety, SEND, wellbeing, EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage). Visits with subject leaders will continue during the summer term.

A governor enjoyed visiting the school during Science Week to see a lesson in action and hear from the coordinator, Mr Dollemore, about the planning that went into the initiative. It was wonderful to see the children so engaged in the activities and to hear their enthusiasm for science as they talked about what they'd been up to during the week. The idea behind the programme is to raise awareness, spark enthusiasm and celebrate science. Judging by the visit, mission accomplished!

CURRENT GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS

As of April 2022, the Governing Body consists of:

Laura Air, Chair (Parent)

Deborah Garvey Co-Vice Chair (Co-opted)

Stella Kalamaj, Co-Vice Chair (Co-opted)

Helen Carmody (Co-opted)

Laura Harvey (Parent)

Gemma Hillier (Headteacher)

Liezl van der Merwe (Staff)

Janet Mills (Co-opted)

Zahid Rahman (Parent)

Martin Skitt (Parent)

Karen Storrie (Local Authority)

For further information about our governors, please visit the website: [The Governing Body | Widmer End School](#)