

Dear Parents/Carers

Greetings. As we begin the Spring Term at Woodthorpe J & I School, we hope you have had a chance for a restful break over the holiday. With the new year ahead of us we would like to give you a brief overview of the Governing Body.

What is the responsibility of the Governing Body?

The governing body has responsibility for ensuring the good conduct and high standards of educational achievement in the school. A Governing Body should act in the interests of the children and also act as a critical friend to the Head teacher.

The three main roles of the Governing Bodies are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The different types of Governors

Parent Governor - nominated by parents of the children who attend the school.

Local Authority Governor - nominated by the Local Authority

Co-opted Governor - selected by the Governing Body as having relevant skills.

Staff Governor - staff representatives and Head teacher

Parent Governors serve on the Governing Body as representative parents and not as the parents' delegate. While we want to be aware of the views and ideas of parents in general, parent governors are not expected to seek parents' approvals for their actions.

Governing body meetings

The governing body has held a number of meetings during the term and in October we met to discuss academies. We know this is of great interest to many parents so we thought we would give our thoughts on this.

The Governing body has long felt that our existing arrangement already provides everything that creates a nurturing environment for our children to achieve their full potential. With the recent discussion in the news we felt we needed to check that we had considered all the options available to us. After careful debate and deliberation, we still believe that our current status remains the best arrangement for the children's education at this time.

Other news

Justine Derry, Eva Phillips and Angela Chatham have now left the Governing body and we would like to offer them a big thank you for their involvement over the last 4 years. They have all given a huge amount of time over the years and we would like to thank them for their contribution.

We are delighted to announce that Steven Jackson has recently joined us as a Co-Opted Governor.

We would like to wish you a happy and hopefully snow-free new year.

Marion Atkin

Chair of Governors (On behalf of Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School Governing Body_.