



GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

**SPRING
TERM
2019**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

I am very pleased to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at school. I have lived very close to school for 20 years and hoped that one day I could be of service to the school. I was a Headteacher for many years and then a school inspector for Ofsted for 10 years. I have taken over from Pam Denton who has given a great deal over many years to the school as Chair. Fortunately, she has agreed to remain on the governing body so we will not lose her expertise. I am a Foundation governor which means that I have a commitment to developing the school's church foundation. I continue to inspect other church primary schools to support them to enable all children to achieve as well as they can.

The role of the chair of governors is about making sure that governance supports the work of the school. It does this by being involved in agreeing the policies and procedures that the school should follow. Governors ask questions of the headteacher and other staff to find out how well these are working and then making any changes if any are needed. Many of the governors are parents and they tell other governors what parents think and feel about the school. They then pass this information on in meetings about what is working well and what can be improved. These views are then taken into account when decisions are made.

Governors come into school to see the school in action and find out how well the decisions they make in meetings are working for the children. They then report back their findings to the Headteacher and other governors and these are incorporated into plans made for the school. Some governors have a special role like Mr Sutcliffe who represents the views of the staff. Because there is a lot to do governors divide the work into two committees as well as sharing out looking in detail at parts of the school development plan. This plan is written mainly by the Headteacher after consultation with the staff. Our recent Ofsted inspection said that the plans made by Mr Swift were very good so we know that we can rapidly make everything good or better.

I am very pleased to be part of such a great school with delightful children. I look forward to working with you all.

Pauline Hilling-Smith

On the next page, you will find out more information on two important committees – Standards and Resources.

From now on there will be termly Governor Newsletters to help keep you more informed about our roles in school, events we have taken part in and how we have held school leaders to account.



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Resources Committee

The Resource Committee for St Paul's school meets every half term and reviews all matters concerning finance, staffing and premises. Its main responsibilities for finance are:

- providing guidance to the governing body on all financial matters;
- approving an annual budget;
- ensuring appropriate financial records and accounts are maintained;
- reviewing staff pay.

Main responsibilities for staffing are:

- Monitoring the implementation of the school's Performance Management Policy;
- Monitoring all staff appointments;
- Ensuring proper policies exist for dealing with staff discipline, grievance, capability, redundancy, pay and staff absence, including sickness.

Main responsibilities for premises are:

- Discussing and reviewing improvement projects;
- Keeping a health and safety role and considering any school premises issues which may arise;
- Ensuring that fire safety measures are sufficient.

Governor Calendar

Date	Event
Friday 1 st March	Standards Committee Meeting
Tuesday 5 th March	Resources Committee Meeting
Friday 3 rd May	Standards Committee Meeting
Tuesday 7 th May	Resources Committee Meeting (Budget Setting)
Tuesday 14 th May	Full Governors Meeting
Tuesday 25 th June	Resources Committee Meeting
Tuesday 9 th July	Full Governors Meeting
Friday 12 th July	Standards Committee Meeting

Governors also come into school to monitor the impact of the School Development Plan Priorities.

Standards Committee

The Standards Committee is made up of a group of governors who meet every half term with the aim of improving the well-being of children and promoting high standards across the curriculum.

We contribute to the whole school improvement plan and ensure that it is focused on appropriate priorities for raising standards at our school. We hold the management team to account on their curriculum decisions.

At each meeting, we review the impact of teaching and learning on all children and we monitor the attainment of groups to ensure that regardless of ability, gender and family situation, all children are provided with the opportunities to make at least good progress and reach their potential.

In addition, we are involved in reviewing and updating policies in line with statutory requirements such as behaviour and discipline, anti-bullying and attendance and punctuality policies.

Governing Body 2018/2019

Name	Role
Pauline Hilling-Smith (Foundation Governor)	Chair of Governors Standards Committee SIAMS Committee
Lorraine Hanson (Foundation Governor)	Vice-Chair of Governors Resources Committee SIAMS Committee Performance Management Committee
Hazel Hogan (Foundation Governor)	Chair of Standards Committee Performance Management Committee
Pam Denton (Foundation Governor)	Chair of Resources Committee Standards Committee SIAMS Committee Performance Management Committee
Dana Clarke (Foundation Governor)	Resources Committee
Angela Binns (Parent Governor)	Standards Committee
Andrew Gelder (Parent Governor)	
David Marshall (LA Governor)	Resources Committee
Lucy Riley (Foundation Governor)	
Mark Sutcliffe	Staff Governor
Lee Swift	Headteacher
Charlotte Somerville	Associate Governor