



**Spixworth Infant School**

**Ivy Road, Spixworth**

**Norwich NR10 3PX**

**Tel: 01603 898483**

**Email: [chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk)**

**Website: [www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk)**

**Chair of governors: Mrs A Eastick**

Date: 5 January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Do you know your school governors?**

Thank you to all those who completed the parent questionnaire sent home at the end of last term.

Despite an increase in those scoring 3 or above (89% in 2017 compared to 79% in 2016), the responses highlighted that not all families are aware of who the school governors are and what we do.

The amount of information available on the governance section of the school website has been vastly improved over the last 6 months and is updated at least half termly with our attendance at full governing body meetings, and our personal governor profiles.

You will also find links here for our half termly governor newsletters, as well as our annual governance statement, which details in full the work carried out by the governing body over the last academic year and what impact this has had on every child's learning experience.

<http://www.spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk/governance/governing-body/>

### **How do you contact the Governors?**

Governors are present at many school events including the open afternoon for prospective new parents, the annual open evening and pupil progress meetings.

Governors have held termly coffee mornings at the school for the past 18 months, giving parents and carers an opportunity to meet us and pass on any comments or feedback they may have. Those who have attended have found these half an hour, informal meetings useful, with ideas shared and any questions or concerns answered either by a governor or another member of the school leadership team. Unfortunately the attendance of these coffee mornings is very low and at risk of being cancelled. For 2018 therefore, we are changing these to parent forums, with a particular focus each term.

With a lot of comments being added to the parent questionnaires around the level of homework, we will be holding our first parent forum on the date of the next scheduled coffee morning, being the 10 January, 9 - 9.30 am. We would welcome all parents and carers with queries around homework to attend this forum where they will be able to obtain first hand information on the expectations around homework, get advice on how to support your child's learning at home and share homework ideas with other parents of the school.

As volunteers and all of us working parents ourselves, we fully understand that it is not always possible to attend school events. We also appreciate that it is not always easy to raise particular concerns in the presence of others.





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If you have any comments or feedback to share with the governing body and are unable to share these with us at one of the above mentioned events, please email them to the chair of governors at:

[chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk)

### **So what do we do?**

Some of the comments on the parent questionnaires were that whilst parents were aware of who the governors were, they were still not really sure what it is that we do.

The role of the governing body is vast. As part of the schools leadership team, we are involved in decisions in all aspects of managing the school.

One of our responsibilities is the appointment of the head teacher, who we then hold to account for the educational performance of the school and in achieving our long-term goals.

The schools progress is regularly evaluated and presented to the governing body and we provide independent challenge by asking questions to ensure continuous improvement and ensure the School is being taken in the right direction.

We do not become involved in the day to day management of the school, this is the head teacher's responsibility, we are however involved in setting the strategic direction and formulating and approving school policies, which we expect the School to adhere to.

The School Improvement Development Plan (SIDP) sets out our short term plan to achieve our long term goal for the school. A one page summary of the SIDP was included with the September 2017 governors newsletter.

Each governor is responsible for an area of the school development plan and in-school monitoring of each area is completed termly and reported back to the full governing body at the full governing body meetings.

Minutes of these meetings are a public document, copies of which are available, on request, from the school office.

The governing body are always looking at ways to improve communication and, to show that your feedback really does impact on the decisions we make, we will be looking to include more content in our half termly newsletter about the work we do.

In the meantime, if you wish to find out more about the governing body and what we do, please visit the governance section of the school website or contact me at the email address above.

Yours sincerely

Angela Eastick  
Chair of Governors

