

Governors Newsletter

October 2019



Dear parents and carers,

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of the first half term of the 2019-20 academic year.

It has been a busy first half term, with the formation of the federated governing body taking place and the first full governing body meeting of the year being held, whereby roles and responsibilities have been allocated.

These responsibilities are both statutory roles and those linked with both schools improvement & development plans, which were also agreed at the board meeting. These documents set out each schools short term plan to achieve their long term vision.

A Federation development team will be meeting next half term to draft a joint vision for the Federation, from which a Federation Development Plan will be drafted and put to the board of governors for approval.

This year is therefore all about the new governing body getting to know both schools. To start this off, the governors will be holding a monitoring day on Thursday 7th November across both schools.

The monitoring day enables us to see the schools at work and gives us an opportunity to gain first hand information to effectively monitor the progress and performance of the schools as well as evaluate our own impact.

As always, parental feedback is an important factor in the decisions made by the governing body. Therefore, as part of the day, we will be available for any parent or carer who may have a question for the governing body, or has any feedback or concerns they wish to raise.

Angela Eastick Chair of Governors
chairofgov@spixworth.norfolk.sch.uk

- Angela Eastick**
- Chair of Governors
- Finance
- Matt Ward**
- Vice Chair
- Quality of teaching, learning & assessment inc. Outcomes
- Lily Engall**
- SEND/Child protection/pupil premium
- Paula Mellor**
- Safeguarding inc attendance & safer recruitment
- Rochelle Smith**
- GDPR
- Charlotte Lucas**
- Effectiveness of leadership and management
- Alexandra Knight**
- Curriculum
- Julia Whiting**
- Partnerships, governors, parents & the community
- Shaun Turner**
- Health & Wellbeing inc. PE & Sports, personal development, behaviour and staff and whole school development & training
- VACANCY**
- Premises development inc. Health & safety

Governor appointments and vacancies

Parent governor elections took place at the beginning of this academic year and I am pleased to welcome, Shaun Turner and Alexandra Knight to the governing body. Their role is to ensure the voice of our families is heard on the governing body when making decisions about the schools.

Our instrument of governance allows for only one named staff governor on the board, however, we are fortunate to have 2 staff members appointed to the governing body, Lily Engall takes the position of staff governor and Rochelle Smith has been co-opted to ensure equal representation from both schools. Heallen Payne has also offered her expertise to the board as an associate member. Heallen can advise the board and attend meetings but will not have any voting rights.

The remaining co-opted governors have been appointed from governors who previously served either the infant or junior school prior to Federation.

We have one vacancy on the board for a co-opted governor.

Co-opted governors are appointed by the governing body and are people who, we feel, share our interest in the performance and future direction of the federation .

There are no specific qualifications or skill sets required to be a governor. All we ask is that you have the motivation, desire and willingness to contribute towards the continuing improvement of the federation and make a difference.

If you or someone you know is interested in joining the governing body please contact either of the schools.

The Federation of Spixworth Schools

What Is a Governor?

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 Schools to adhere to.

The School Improvement Development Plan (SIDP) sets out the short term plan to achieve the school's long term goal.

Each governor is responsible for an area of the school development plan. Governor monitoring takes place in school throughout the whole year, we speak to school leaders, staff, collect parent views through surveys and forums, carry out learning walks, consider the finances, review policies and much more.

Reports are prepared and fed back to the governing body, who meet half termly. Minutes of these meetings are a public document, copies of which are available, on request, from either school office.

We try to speak to as many stakeholders as possible and are always considering ways to improve communication and, collect your feedback as this really does play a vital part in decisions being made about your schools.

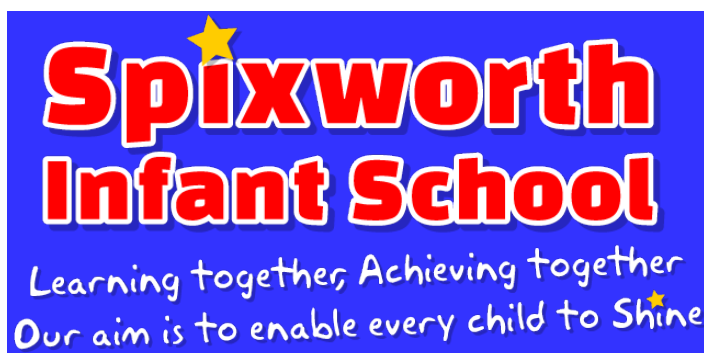
If you want to learn more about the governing body or are interested in becoming the governor, please contact either of the school offices.

School Websites

More information about the governing body can be found via the school websites:

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

<https://www.woodlandview.norfolk.sch.uk/governors>



Awakening Talents- Developing Strengths