

ORLEANS PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS ANNUAL STATEMENT 2015/2016

“A love of learning, for all, for life”

We are fortunate to have a Governing Body with a wide range of skills and experience, who support our school community. The ethos of the governing body is essential in carrying out the varied responsibilities for the benefit of the children.

A list of all governors, together with their particular responsibility appears under the Governors section of the website. Below is the attendance of each Governor for both the full governing body meetings and the committees on which they sit.

The Governing Body was recently reconstituted and now comprises 2 parent governors, 1 LA governor, 2 associate governors, 1 staff governor, 6 co-opted governors. Here is the attendance over the past year. The first table is for the full Governing Body meetings, the second for the committees.

Governor	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	
Rhian James	y	y	y	y		
Matthew Engelke	x	y	y	y		
Alex Axiom	y	y	y	y		
Yeing-Lang Chong	x	y	y	x		
Sue Gil-Garcia	y	x	y	y		
Janie Emmerson	y	x	y	x		
Nora McGlone	N/A		y	y		
Roy Vella	y	y	y	y		
Rebecca Gibbs	y	x	y	y		
Alan Watkinson	y	y	y	y		

Finance/Premises Governor	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2
Alex Axiom	y	y	y	y
Janie Emmerson	y	y	y	y
Sue Gil-Garcia	y	x	y	x
Rhian James	y	y	y	y
Nora McGlone	n/a		y	y
Personnel Governor				
Rhian James	y		y	
Yeing-Lang Chong	y		y	
Alex Axiom	y		y	
Quality/Standards				

Governor				
Matthew Engelke	y	x	y	y
Roy Vella	y	y	y	y
Rebecca Gibbs	y	x	y	y
Alan Watkinson	y	y	y	y

A wide range of training courses are provided by the Local Authority. Courses attended this year include Chair's briefing (termly), Financial Management for Schools, Safeguarding, Prevent training, Performance Management of the Head and the National Training Programme for Governors. One Governor also attended the Inset Day for teachers which focused on literacy.

The Governing Body has four core strategic functions which are:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and the performance management of staff.
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.
4. Ensuring the school's statutory duties are met.

How do we achieve this:

The Governing Body has had a busy year, focusing on school improvement, with particular emphasis on embedding the new curriculum and the new assessment procedures.

The Quality and Standards have been focusing on analysing the children's progress with particular attention given to the vulnerable groups (that is, Mrs Rebecca Gibbs meeting with the new SENCo, Mrs Leanne Ho to discuss arrangements for the children who have additional needs.)

School visits were also arranged for Professor Matthew Engelke the literacy governor and Mr Roy Vella, the maths and IT governor. Mr Alan Watkinson has been paying particular attention to the teaching of sport and PE at school as this has been a focus. He has met with the Head, the sport coordinator and Mrs Jenny Wyle our external sport advisor to monitor the teaching of sport at school. He has also become part of our School Sports Development Committee, a slice team which is made up of a cross section of staff, parents and governors. The Quality and Standards Committee has also been focusing on the introduction of a new assessment system, Learning Ladders.

The Personnel, Children and Community committee have been reviewing policies paying particular attention to the updated safeguarding policy which now includes FGM and adopting the prevent policy which prevents radicalisation. With our first ever cohort moving on to secondary school, Mrs Alex Axiom has had termly meetings with Mrs Kilbride who coordinates the transition from KS2 to KS3 to monitor the arrangements in place to ensure our year 6 children are fully prepared for the

next stage in their lives. Termly safeguarding meetings have also taken place by Mrs Rhian James to ensure that the safeguarding policy is maintained.

The Finance and Premises committee have had a challenging year focusing on the school budget. With budgets becoming increasingly tight, the teaching and learning at Orleans Primary remains the top priority. Mrs Janie Emmerson has been undertaking termly Health and Safety inspections at school to ensure that the school remains a safe environment for the children. These inspections are made in conjunction with the school business manager and reported back to the committee.