

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024

TERMLY REVIEW

Welcome to our Spring Term update!

This year to date, Governors have held two full Governing body meetings, school sub-committees, and held two Governor visit mornings to see lessons and children during the school day. Governors act as critical friends to the school and make strategic decisions as a group, whilst the operational management of the schools remains the responsibility of the school leadership team. Each Governor holds a role that oversees all three schools and is also a member of a sub-committee that is linked to each school.

Thank you for your support in making sure that our three-school partnership continues to be such a success. In 2023 all three schools achieved results that were around 20% above those nationally putting them in the top 3% of schools in England for the progress children make. However, we are not complacent in knowing the challenges that our schools face and the importance of ensuring that every child who learns with us gets a full, rounded and excellent education.

We hope that this new Governor newsletter helps you better understand our work to make sure we get the best for children at all three schools and capitalise on the many benefits that partnership working is bringing.



PARENT SURVEY OUTCOMES

Our three schools continue to be excellent learning spaces for our children and we were delighted with the positive outcomes of the recent parents' surveys, again with high levels of response from our communities. During the Spring Term meetings, we reviewed the outcomes of these surveys with the school leadership teams to understand the strengths and what we can strive to do even better. Our parent survey summaries are accessible on the school website in the parent section as a suggestion made by one of our associate governors, to ensure both celebration and transparency of the outcomes.

GOVERNOR LINK VISITS

Each term Governors visit during the school day. During the first part of this visit they drop into classrooms and meet with staff and children, comparing what they see with what they understand from the termly reports they receive from the Headteachers. Governors also meet with a group of pupils to talk about their learning and their experience of being at school. So far this year Governors have met with pupils at Southwold to talk about what our schools do in the Early Years, meeting children and teachers in classrooms and hearing from school leaders. Governors also went to Hoxton Garden school to look at provision for SEND pupils, meeting with children and looking at their work outcomes. Their visit to Orchard School is planned for the Summer term.



GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

The Viridis Governing body consists of 8 Co-opted Governors, 2 Parent Governors, 1 Staff Governor, 1 Local Authority Governor and an Executive Headteacher Governor. We meet once a term as a full Governing body and once a term as a school sub-committee. Each school has a subcommittee that reports to the full Governing body. As well as learning from each school in the partnership, the purpose of the Schools Committees is:

- To oversee the strategic implementation of strategies that build, foster and develop effective parental partnerships with the school.
- To monitor the development of a range of community services and extended school activities to help meet the needs of its pupils, their families and the wider community.
- To consider the effectiveness of the school approach to promoting good attendance and punctuality.
- To monitor and evaluate progress on school development priorities, initiatives & interventions in order to feedback to the full Governing body.
- To ensure that pupil assessment and record keeping systems are in place and working and that assessment data is used effectively.
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of provision and the attainment of all pupils including that for SEN and disadvantaged pupils using school assessment information.
- To ensure that school policies on curriculum subject areas and on such matters as Safeguarding, Sex Education, Religious Education, Special Educational Needs & Ethnic Minority Achievement are implemented and reviewed.
- To ensure that the school has a robust approach to safeguarding and the well being of all pupils.
- To consider the effectiveness of the school approach to health and safety and disability access and make recommendations to the full Governing body.

