



# Ashton under Hill First School

"Expect only the best"

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Dear Parents/Carers

7<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## Governor Update – Autumn 2017

Incredibly, Harvest Festival and Halloween are already behind us and Christmas is now in the shops. So apologies if this feels very belated, but the governors do hope our new parents feel welcomed and that your children have settled well into their classes. Likewise, to all our parents and pupils, we trust everyone is enjoying school life and pleased with the start made this academic year.

Last year, the governors began sending out a termly update to parents, in addition to the annual report issued at the end of the school year. Much of the information was by way of introducing how we organise ourselves and the areas of the school in which we take an interest, as well as the priorities and focus for school development & financial management. Backdated issues will shortly be available on the website and please do visit our webpage [Our School – The Team – Governors] for our current committee structure, individual governor roles and latest blogs.

This year there is an exciting opportunity for parents to get involved as we have **two forthcoming parent governor vacancies**, one coming up in February and the other in May. We will start the process with elections for both to be held in January and we warmly welcome new and existing parents to consider joining the Board. We would also encourage anyone who has shown an interest previously to consider re-standing. If you think that this may be for you, or you simply wish to find out more please speak to Mrs Peacey or Mrs Grant. Existing governors are also very happy to be approached. In addition, we have put together a mini guide to "Being a Governor at Ashton" which will be available at Parents Evening or anytime from the office.

At the coming Full Governing Body meeting the main focus will be to hear feedback from the School Improvement & Data (SID) committee on their scrutiny of this year's School Development Plan (SDP). We will also look closely at the pupil tracking system to ensure governors have clear oversight on pupil achievement and progress throughout the year as well as a clear understanding of the standards of use & reporting. Through improved staff engagement as well as targeted governor visits, governors aim to bolster the effectiveness of support and challenge, thereby ensuring that your children receive the very best the school can offer. Mrs Peacey will issue a parent friendly short version of the SDP as soon after our meeting as practicable and it will be available on the website.

It is only proper & right to acknowledge again how fortunate the school is to have such a dedicated, stable and professional staff team who continue to work cohesively in order to deliver an ambitious and creative curriculum.

Finally, just to say, we look forward to joining you at the Grand Opening of the track and seeing the pupils in their Christmas celebrations.

As always, if you wish to give any feedback, please do so via the office in person or by email to [office@ashton.worcs.uk](mailto:office@ashton.worcs.uk).

Best Regards  
Debra Lincoln, Chair of Governors



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