

Chair of Governor's Report July 2016



As a Governing Board we are focused on ensuring that the school delivers the best possible outcomes for all pupils in accordance with the school's values and ethos and the strategic direction set out in the School Improvement Plan [SIP]

We started the year by completing the re-constitution of the Governing Board in accordance with OFSTED requirements – we now have the following structure:

- 1 * Head
- 1 * Staff Governor
- 4 * Parent Governor
- 3 * Co-opted Governor
- 1 * Local Authority Governor

This has been my first year as Chair of Governors and I am indebted to my fellow governors for their support and involvement in governance activities. Each Governor has a lead role in one or more areas of school life e.g. Safeguarding, Health & Safety, PE etc and undertake monitoring visits to ensure that the school is delivering excellence in these areas. This also ensures that we have governors with a more in-depth understanding of various aspects of school life.

The Governing Board has seen some changes in personnel this year

- Sally-Anne Beecham, Les Blunt, Rogers Watts and Rod Chadwick resigned;
- Mark Briddon became an Associate Governor
- Stuart Downham joined as a co-opted governor
- Mick Wall joined recently as the Local Authority Governor

We have increased our focus on the strategic direction the school needs to take over the next 3-5 years in recognition of some of the emerging external pressures from local and central government around funding and alternative forms of organization e.g. Federated or Academy Schools. We also saw the introduction of new KS2 SATs.

In support of this we undertook a comprehensive review of the school's internal Strengths and Weaknesses and external Opportunities and Threats [SWOT] that informed both the School Improvement Plan [SIP] and the development of the school Vision and Ethos.

The Teaching staff can be rightly proud of their achievements this year culminating in securing above national average outcomes in the latest KS2 tests.

We are fortunate to have an experienced and stable staffing template that provides the school with a wealth of experience to draw upon - one of our emerging challenges is to ensure the school is able to maintain these standards over the coming years. On that note, the Governing Board would like to thank Carl Edmunds for his time with the school and wish him well for the future.

As a Governing body we have been confident in the leadership and management of the school, that they understand the challenges across the school and have accounted for them in their own self-evaluation that feeds into the School Improvement Plan.

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One of the enablers of pupil and teacher performance is the quality of its buildings and teaching resources. So it was reassuring to note that our recent investment in technology has improved the performance of the IT network and increased the confidence of the teaching staff. We have continued to invest in the fabric of the school and are continuing with classroom decoration after replacing some windows under the school insurance scheme.

On behalf of the Governors I'd like to thank all the staff for their ongoing energy and commitment to our children. I'd also like to thank all those fellow parents and carers who continue to support school life through attendance at events, helping with homework, and for ensuring pupils are in school every day on time.

It's this teamwork that continues to make Brockwell Juniors the amazing school that it is.

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