



Beechwood Primary School



Ambleside Close, Woodley, Berkshire, RG5 4JJ

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Dear Parent/Guardians

17 November 2015

With the recent election of Richard Skegg as a Parent Governor, I thought it might be helpful to write to remind you about the current composition of our Governing Body and what we see as its role and responsibilities.

At present we have a Governing Body of twelve members, made up as follows:

5	Elected by parent/guardians: Rakhee Sharma (Vice Chair) Soha Hafez Andi Blinco Richard Harrod Richard Skegg
1	Appointed by Wokingham Borough Council: Michael Holt (Chair of Governors)
1	Staff representative: Julie Baker
1	Head Teacher Gordon Davies
4	Co-opted by the Governing Body: Archana Kaka Nick Oakley (Vice Chair) Shelagh Flower Val Curtis
(2)	Associated members appointed by the Governing Body: Rachel Minter, Deputy Head Teacher Reverend Eddie Marquez

The main role and responsibilities of the Governors can be summarised as follows:

- To support the school, Head Teacher and all staff
- To look after the interests of all children, staff and parent/guardians
- Involvement in strategic decision making, but not the day to day operation of the school
- To challenge and support in a constructive way
- Oversight of the budget
- To be a friend to the school
- To respect confidentiality

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We have three committees with titles which are self-explanatory. They are as follows:

Name of Committee	Chair
Resources and Strategy	Nick Oakley
Curriculum and Welfare	Rakhee Sharma
Facilities and Development	Shelagh Flower

All of this information can also be found on our website:

<http://beechwoodprimaryschool.com/governors/beechwood-governing-body>

One of the key matters for us is the need to ensure that the views of parents on their children's learning and welfare are being heard. With this in mind, we are keen to strengthen links between parents and our Governing Body. As a first step we have recently appointed Rakhee Sharma, Vice Chair of Governors, with special responsibility for links with parent/guardians.

As parent/guardians have responsibility for the election of five members to our Governing Body, as your representatives, you already have a link through them, in much the same as you do on government matters, via your local M.P. or local councillor.

However, we also intend at the forthcoming meeting of the Curriculum and Welfare Committee, to look at the possibility of setting up the occasional 'surgery' where parents can meet with Governors and also arrange to have a representative on hand for you at school events and parent/child consultation sessions. In addition, jointly with the school, we shall invite you to give your views through parental surveys from time to time.

In the meantime, if there are any policy issues you would like the Governors to consider, please feel free to contact me, or any of our Governors. Messages can be left for us at the school office.

However, please bear in mind that our role is a strategic one, relating to school policy and that day to day issues would be taken up as always with the class teacher initially, who will refer the matter on if necessary to either a Team Leader or the Head Teacher.

We thank you for your continued support, which is much appreciated and look forward to working with you in the future.

Yours faithfully

Michael Holt
Chair of Governors