

Woodlands Academy Annual Governors' Report to Parents and Staff

September 2018

Well done and Thank you

The Governing Board would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all of our staff and pupils for their commitment and hard work during the last academic year. We would also like to thank the parents and carers who have supported our school and their children to bring about school improvement. Our Early years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 SATs results this year have demonstrated how by working together we can really make a difference to the outcomes for our children. We are so proud of everyone's achievements and the amazing progress that our pupils have made since joining our school. Well done, everyone!

This is the first report that Governors have prepared for parents and staff at the school to keep you informed about the work of the Governing Board and the priorities we have been addressing. This first report will explain what the Governing Board does and introduce the Governors.

The Woodlands Governing Board

The Woodlands Governing Board is accountable to the Grand Union Multi Academy Trust Board (GUMAT) for improving the performance of the school and its' pupils outcomes. It is also accountable for the expenditure in line with the budget that has been agreed by the MAT (Multi-Academy Trust) Board.

In addition to the Full Governing Board we have 3 committees:

1. **Resources Committee** – this committee is responsible for monitoring the budget expenditure and making recommendations to the MAT Board for the priorities for the next 3 years expenditure. It also monitors school attendance and punctuality figures and agrees actions with the Senior Leadership Team to help increase the numbers on roll, improve attendance and improve punctuality. It has responsibility for reviewing the staffing structure of the school and it also checks that all the appropriate policies are in place for staff and pupils regarding Safeguarding, Health and Safety and other aspects of welfare and employment. Finally, it has accountability for maintaining the premises and grounds.
2. **Curriculum Committee** – this committee is responsible for monitoring the way in which the school provides teaching and learning opportunities for pupils from nursery through to Year 6. It regularly monitors pupil performance and it also checks that the curriculum being taught meets the standards outlined in the National Curriculum and that it is broad and balanced.
3. **Pay Committee** – this committee is responsible for administering the whole school pay policy and the staff appraisal policy. It conducts an annual review of teachers pay based on their performance in line with the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document.

The Full Governing Board, the Resources and the Curriculum committees meet at least once per term. The Pay committee meets twice a year.

Governors also visit the school to monitor particular aspects of its work during the school day. The focus of these visits is in line with the priorities identified in the school development plan that is agreed by the MAT. Examples of visits are English, Maths, Safeguarding, SEN, Pupil Premium and Sports Premium.

Governing Board Membership

Since becoming an academy in September 2015, there have been several changes to the Governing Board: thank you to all past and present governors for their assistance in establishing us as an Academy. In particular I would like to thank John Popham, John Keyes and Karim Ezzat who have moved on during 2017 - 2018

Ms Maryam Ahmad, Co-opted Governor

Maryam has just recently become a co-opted governor. She has previously worked as a support youth worker in Hounslow as well as in an online marketing firm to drive relationships between partner firms. Since then, she has qualified as a primary school teacher with the London borough of Ealing. She has the passion to drive change and increase prospects for young children by improving the way the curriculum is developed within her school. She is a member of the Curriculum Committee.

Mrs Balkhisa Bashir, Parent Governor

Balkhisa has just recently become a parent governor having been the secretary of the Copley resident association since 2015. Balkhisa is also the chairlady of an internationally branched charity. Balkhisa has good communication skills and interactions within communities, qualities that helped her learn more about our diverse society in Hanwell. She is a passionate, level-headed woman who shows elements of generosity to the people surrounding her. She has lived in Hanwell for the past 10+ years and is more than well known in this area. She has organised public, local events such as fun days and Eid celebrations for the purpose of uniting the community. She is also a current member of RSG (The Regeneration Project) and is enjoying her role as a Parent Governor, aiming to be responsible for the talented pupils at Woodlands Academy.

Mrs Jamilah Kanval, Parent Governor

Jamilah has a daughter in Year 3. She firmly believes that a good education provides young people with choices. Before taking a career break, she taught English at secondary level for 13 years. During this time, she had various roles including responsibility for Key Stage 3 at departmental level, and also able, gifted and talented students helping them to aim higher across the whole school. More recently, Jamilah has provided English support to Year 6 pupils at the school. She is a member of the Curriculum Committee.

Mrs Shirley Kenworthy-Wright, Co-opted Governor

Shirley has been a governor in Ealing schools for 26 years. She is passionate about improving opportunities for pupils to reach their full potential and to be equipped with the skills they will need for the next stage in their education at secondary school and beyond. Until she retired in 2013, she was a store manager with Marks and Spencer. Shirley is a member of all the committees and is currently chair of the Governing Board and the Curriculum Committee

Mr Ravi Lamba, Co-opted Governor

Ravi is a local resident and joined as a Governor in the autumn of 2017. He has worked at KPMG, a large financial services firm, for close to 20 years and is passionate about using his experience to help contribute to society through his role at Woodlands and believes in the importance of a good education for all children, regardless of their background. Ravi is vice-chair of the Resources Committee.

Mr Scott Sutherland, Co-opted Governor

Scott joined the Governing Board in March as a Co-opted Governor. He has lived in Ealing for 15 years and has 2 children attending school and nursery in the borough. Scott has had an 18 year career in Banking and is currently a Risk Manager at Deutsche Bank. He has previously volunteered as a numeracy tutor to students and strongly believes in a good education as the basis for creating opportunities in life. Scott is a member of the Resources Committee and the Pay Committee.

Mrs Jane Sherbourne, Staff Governor

Jane is the Early Years Phase Leader and Nursery Class Teacher at Woodlands. She has lived in Hanwell for over 25 years and has strong links to the local community. She believes strongly that a good school should be at the heart of this community. She was a Parent Governor and Vice Chair of the PTA at her daughters' school for many years before training to be a teacher. Prior to teaching, Jane worked in the Film Industry as a Costume Buyer for 20 years. Jane is the Staff Governor and a member of the Curriculum Committee.

Mr Bharat Vaswani, Co-opted Governor

Bharat is an advertising, branding, marketing and sales professional working with India's largest media conglomerate for the past 26 years. He is a post graduate in marketing management.

Bharat lives in Ealing since he came to the UK in 2004. This is his first time as a school Governor and he chairs the resources committee.

He strongly believes that the potential in students should be enhanced by offering better opportunities, conducive environment and of course exceptional teaching and guidance.

Bharat enjoys travelling and his work takes him to new and exciting places. He likes reading, cooking and performing arts.

Ms Harinder Rana Head teacher

Harinder worked in Medical Science for 10 years and has a Masters in Immunology. After leaving the field of science she went to Japan to teach English for a year. It was here Harinder developed a love of teaching and decided to change career. For close to 20 years Harinder has taught and lead at a senior level in schools in Harrow, Hounslow, Ealing and Buckinghamshire. Harinder joined our school as Headteacher in September 2015. Harinder is a member of all Governing Board Committees.

Achievements Last Academic Year

Our priority was to improve the outcomes for all our pupils especially in English and Maths. Our end of year results are testament to the efforts everyone involved in the school has made to ensure children have access to **good or better** teaching and learning. This committed approach has led to improvements in pupil attainment

across the whole school. It has also meant, that compared to their starting point, pupils have made **good progress**. Governors conducted the following visits: Special Educational Needs (SEN), Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Maths. Governors also attended 2 training sessions at the school.

Another focus was to build on our engagement with the local community so that parents and carers felt involved with their children's education. The Arts Week and Science Weeks are great examples of working together and the fabulous library is a tribute to your efforts. Thank you!

Governors also attended: The EYFS & Key Stage1 Easter production, and the summer fair.

Priorities for this Year

It will be an exciting time for staff and pupils at Woodlands Academy. This year we are embarking on a journey of discovery by using "big questions" to start our topic and enquiry-based teaching and learning throughout our school curriculum.

The Governing Board want to build on the strengths we have developed. We would like to continue to see upward trends in the outcomes for pupils, not just academically but in their social, moral, spiritual, cultural and physical development.

We would like to see Woodlands as the school of choice in the community that it serves.

Finally, it is important to keep our children safe when they are using the internet. We want to support parents and carers with this and we will be running e-safety awareness workshops during the year.