

Woodlands Academy Governors' report to Parents and Staff

End of Autumn Term 2019

Happy New Year!

We hope you had a restful Christmas break and are looking forward to the new year. We thank you all for your support and commitment to Woodlands Academy. We were delighted to see so many parents attending the events last term especially the International Evening and the Christmas Productions. We also received very good feedback from parents who attended the workshops and the parents' evenings.

Governing Body Reports

We had a busy first term addressing the priorities which we had set in our School Development Plan. These are :

1. Develop an inspirational curriculum that reflects our aspirations for pupil development
2. Continuing to develop the quality of our teaching and learning so that the outcomes for our pupils continue to improve rapidly
3. Further raise the profile of our school within the local community and build on our reputation as a provider of good quality education and care for our pupils.

All of our Governors received safeguarding training in December.

Resources Committee

This term we monitored the expenditure against the budget (which runs from 1 September to 31 August annually) and identified that despite certain personnel changes, we are on target to meet the agreed end of year budget.

We look forward to receiving detailed proposals for Government Spending on Education and how these will impact on us over the next three years.

We reviewed a number of the school policies including all the policies relating to finance. You will find all of our policies on the school website as is our Pupil Premium Impact Report.

The annual external audit was carried out over half term.

Curriculum Committee

We started the term by analysing the end of year data on pupil outcomes for every year group. We were delighted with the upward trend for attainment and progress in every key stage.

We looked at our results compared to other schools in Ealing and were pleased to note:

That we are in the top 10 schools for the % of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development at the end of Reception.

We are above the average in all subjects at the end of Key Stage 1 (Year 2).

At the end of Key Stage 2 (year 6) 68% of our pupils achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined and our added value score was very good.

We also reviewed results in comparison to national figures and were delighted to note that we were above the national average in all subjects in all year groups apart from Writing in Key stage 2 for the % pupils achieving the expected standard or higher.

We also had an update on the curriculum, pupil premium and also received the SEND report.

We recognised that there has been an increase in the number of families in need of support this term and the Senior Leadership team have all been working hard to resolve the issues with the outside agencies. Governors agreed to advertise for a Family Support Officer to further support this and we were able to appoint someone to start in the Spring Term.

We reviewed a number of policies including the Safeguarding Policy, the Special Educational Needs Policy and the Early Years Foundation Stage Policy.

Changes to membership of the Governing Board

We are sorry to have to say goodbye to two of our Governors this term. Maryam Ahmad and Wasim Salti who were both co-opted Governors. Wasim has however agreed to remain as an associate member of the Resources Committee.

Our 2 new parent governors, Wendy Pinkney and Vanessa Valentine have attended Governor training meetings and committee meetings and have provided really useful insight into our collective decision making. We are all keen to support the group of parents who are planning to set up a Woodlands PTA this year.

Priorities for the Spring Term

Our new Family Support Officer will join us after half term to work with the inclusion team and our families. We are continuing to work on our school development priorities and the recommendations from our Ofsted inspection last term with a focus on phonics and reading together with writing across the curriculum. Governors are planning a science visit this term to look at the changes that have been made in the way in which we engage our pupils in their learning.