

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER – SPR 2022



TAVISTOCK INFANT SCHOOL



GOVERNOR VISITS

A really important part of the Governor role is to carry out visits in the school. Visits help to keep Governors connected with the school and then we can see for ourselves whether the School Improvement Plan is being implemented. It is also important that certain critical checks happen regularly such as around safeguarding or the school's special needs (SEND) provision.

I have recently carried out two such visits – a SEND visit and a visit on the English Curriculum.

I met with the Head of English and was given a detailed overview of Reading and Writing. It is fascinating how much planning goes into the lessons and topics each term, and I was shown how the planning starts, how it turns into a lesson plan and how the results are monitored to ensure the best outcomes for your children. I also had the opportunity to look through some anonymised writing books including those at different levels, and it was useful to see how the planning comes to life in the pupil's work.

I met with the Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator (SENCo). This is an extraordinary role that co-ordinates the provision for all pupils in the school with special needs. The needs for SEND provision change each year, and throughout the year, as the needs of the pupils will be varied. It is particularly important to monitor the results of this support as progress may not be as fast as other pupils, but it is important that the best results are achieved with the right support.

I would like to assure all parents and carers that my visits demonstrated the excellent provision for your children by a school team that passionately care about supporting their best outcomes.

Kerrie Cole - Vice Chair of Governors

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

CURRENT WORK INCLUDES:

- GOVERNOR VISITS TRAINING AND PROTOCOLS
- END OF FINANCIAL YEAR
- GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT & SUCCESSION PLANNING

FINANCE

School finance is an important part of our role and something, which we constantly review.

On a recent Governor visit, specific items of income and expenditure were discussed and I asked about the exact provision behind particular services from the Local Education Authority. I was delighted and impressed to receive a clear and helpful reply in less than a working day, which outlined their value. This also demonstrated the efficiency and attention to detail of our management staff.

Nick Parker – Finance

GOVERNOR VISITS

Governors have a responsibility to review their school's performance and provision. This can be undertaken in a number of ways, including actual visits to the school and meetings with staff members.

This has been more challenging in recent times so we recently determined to seek training in the best approaches. We are delighted to be able to carry out these visits in person more easily currently, albeit with continued caution. The school leadership and other staff are always very welcoming and forthcoming.