

PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A PARENT AT OUR SCHOOL

Wildmoor Heath School is in a very strong position and has dramatically improved over the past 10 years since it was a school deemed to 'require special measures' by Ofsted. In the last two inspections, the school was judged as 'good' and we consider it to be in an even better place now.

One of the many elements of the school that has gained in strength is our governing body. The governors form part of the leadership of the school and work very closely with the headteacher. As a school within the Greenshaw Learning Trust (GLT), on behalf of the Trustees, we oversee:

- **Finance.** The governing board sets the annual budget for the school and determines how it will be spent, as well as the three-year financial plan. This means that we should be able to prioritise where the money should go first, as well as in the long term.
- **Educational performance.** We ensure that the school's agreed curriculum is being taught well, and monitor how the school encourages the children's spiritual, moral, and cultural development. Besides this, we hold the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the pupils. Any education issues - for example, ensuring that the school provides adequate support for disadvantaged students or those with special needs are addressed in our meetings.
- **Strategy.** We form the school's vision and ambition for the school and agree how the school will achieve them.
- **Management.** One of our most important responsibilities is to look after the well-being of the headteacher, providing support to her (such as ensuring that the workload is manageable, and defending her decisions if/when necessary), but also challenging the headteacher if necessary.

The governing body works as team. We do not have committees, so all governors can be involved in all discussions in our meetings. We meet six times each year, usually for two hours and we are currently holding all our meetings remotely. We intend to meet in person going forward but will consider individuals accessing our meetings remotely if necessary. In recent meetings we have had presentations by school leaders on maths and English that have really helped us to understand how the children learn and excel in those areas.

In addition to our meetings, governors take on a role (as link governors) for a chosen theme, such as behaviour, special needs, health and safety, finance, staff well-being, etc. This means that between us we have good knowledge of what goes on across the school and can discuss our themes in meetings.

This is a great time to join our governing body. GLT has a new induction/training programme and provides advice to help any governor, whether new or experienced, to be fully effective in contributing to the work of the team.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A PARENT TO JOIN US WHO IS:

- Keen to volunteer and interested in children's education
- Able to bring an outside perspective (parent governors do not act on behalf of parents, but bring their own knowledge of the school as well as their own views)
- Skilled in any way that will support our governing body

Parents who apply to become governors are chosen by an election by ballot.

If you would like to discuss becoming a governor, because you want to find out more or are interested in applying, you are welcome to contact me for an informal conversation. Please e-mail me at kroche@greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk

Karen Roche

Vice-Chair, Greenshaw Learning Trust