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Dear Parents and Carers,

School governors - who are they and what do they do?

School governors are the largest volunteer group in the country and are drawn from all walks of life. What governors share is a passionate belief that all children deserve to have access to effective schools. Being a school governor can be a very rewarding job. Governors have the opportunity to shape the development of their school. The composition of a Governing Body should contain a wide range of people from the community.

Who are school governors?

- People who value education
- Ordinary people who care about our children's futures
- People from all walks of life
- People who want to give something back to the community
- Volunteers with experience of life
- Anyone over 18 (with some exceptions)

School governors:

- Help future generations gain access to the best possible education
- Contribute to the local community
- Gain new skills in Human Resources, Finance and Management
- Access business networking opportunities
- Use their current skills in a new environment

What do governors do?

Working closely with the headteacher, the main responsibility of the Governing Body is to determine the aims and overall conduct of the school with a view to promoting high standards of educational achievement. The specific duties of a Governing Body include setting staffing levels, appointing headteachers, setting and agreeing the school budget, ensuring that a broad and balanced curriculum is delivered, as well as monitoring health and safety and the management of the premises.



Bridgewater School Governing Body

Bridgewater Governing Body is made up of twelve governors. A full Governing Body meeting is held once every term. The Governing Body also has three sub committees which monitor and provide strategic direction, challenge and support for the areas which they cover. These are:

1. Buildings, Health and Safety
2. School Effectiveness, Pupil and Parents
3. Finance, Staffing and Pay

Each sub committee meets once a term and focuses on more specific areas of school governance.

- *Chair of the Governing Body – Pastor O. Olagunju*
- *Head Teacher Governor – Mrs E Henderson*
- *Staff Governor – Mrs K Byard*
- *Parent Governor – Miss S Meadows*
- *Parent Governor – Mr B McBride*
- *Parent Governor – Mrs B Mburu*
- *Co-opted Governor – Mrs K McWalters*
- *Co-opted Governor – Mr N Parton*
- *Co-opted Governor – Mr A Byard*
- *Co-opted Governor – Miss J Pendlebury*
- *Co-opted Governor – Mrs U Ratcliffe*
- *Observer – Mr S Doherty (Deputy Head)*

This year Governors have also:

- Produced a Long Term action plan, in consultation with the Headteacher and Senior Leaders, to ensure continuous school improvement.
- Conduct book looks and learning walks to check standards as presented by the Headteacher and Senior Leaders.
- Undertaken training with Clive Davies OBE and Salford's Governor services to ensure they are up-to-date with the last educational initiatives and able to support and challenge the Headteacher.
- Completed Health and Safety and Website audits to ensure that procedures comply with Government and Ofsted standards.
- Meet with Senior Leaders to discuss their roles and responsibilities and procedures for improvements in achievement and progress within school – EYFS Leader (Miss Fishwick), English Leader (Miss Duffy) and Assessment Leader (Mr Doherty).



**Should you wish to contact the Chair of the Governing Body you may do so in writing care of
Bridgewater Primary School.**

