



Headteacher's Coffee Morning

Friday 27th January 2023

'Meet the Governors'

Welcome and Introductions

Purpose of the session:

- To introduce members of our governing body to parents and explain the role of governors
- Get parent feedback regarding the draft statement of behaviour principles

What do governors do?

What is their role in a maintained school like Hotham?

DfE Governance handbook sets out three core functions of governing bodies

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
3. Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent

In 2020, NGA formally identified stakeholder engagement as the fourth core function to ensure the voices of stakeholders are heard.

NGA Short Film

The role of school governors and trustees -
YouTube

Card Sort

Who is responsible for each activity?

- Governors
- School Leaders
- Both

Determine the vision and ethos of the school

Fundraise for the school

Ask challenging questions of school leaders

Collect the views of pupils, parents and staff

You said We did

Examples of bigger strategic decisions governors have taken in recent years at Hotham - more often than not in response to stakeholder feedback

We would like help with childcare / longer school day
'In house' wraparound provision

Uniform - supplier / quality / cost
This is ongoing but we are listening and looking to change supplier when we can find one who is able to meet our requirements

Unfair curriculum offer
Changed admissions offer and now we have Enhanced French for all pupils

Better facilities / more green space
Phase 1 of the playground refurb project Phase 2 Secret Garden and Forest School planting

Something else we need stakeholder input into

Statement of Behaviour Principles

Why have we written this statement?

The Department of Education requires us as a governing body to produce a statement of principles about behaviour and discipline to help guide the Headteacher in producing a behaviour policy for the school. This statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006, and DfE guidance.

It reflects the shared ambitions and beliefs of governors, staff and parents for the pupils in the school, as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. All members of the Hotham Community should be confident that they have the support of the Governing Body when following this guidance.

Respect

- *Every child has the right to learn and not have their learning disrupted by others.*
- *All teachers have the right to teach without disruption.*
- *Pupils have the right to feel safe.*
- *Bullying, including cyber-bullying, amongst pupils will not be tolerated. A clear anti-bullying approach will be set out in our Behaviour Policy.*
- *Pupils must respect the school rules on behaviour, school property, uniform and banned items.*
- *Pupils outside of the school premises and when in school uniform are expected to understand that good behaviour is essential as they represent the school. The school may take disciplinary action if pupils' behaviour brings the school into disrepute.*
- *The school's Behaviour Policy will set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against pupils or members of the wider school community who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff.*

Responsibility

- *We expect and positively encourage good behaviour from our pupils and we also expect that all adults in the school – staff, volunteer, parents and governors – will set excellent examples to the pupils at all times.*
- *We also expect pupils to be prepared to learn from their own mistakes. We aim to give every child a sense of personal responsibility for his/her own actions.*
- *Whilst we believe in positive behaviour management through praise and rewards, it is important that unacceptable and poor behaviour should be followed by clear and consistent sanctions, which will be set out in our Behaviour Policy.*
- *We believe that following a sanction, restoration is an essential step which allows children to learn from their mistakes, take responsibility for the improvement of their future behaviour and re-establish positive relationships.*
- *School staff should be trained and supported in their responsibility with regards to ensuring that pupils respect school rules on behaviour, school property, uniform and banned items.*

Resolve

- *The school will continue to work with pupils to help them improve their behaviour for as long as they are in its care. Parents/carers will be kept informed where there are incidents of poor behaviour and where there are significant concerns, the school will work with parents to strive for common strategies between home and school.*
- *The school will work to seek advice and support from appropriate outside agencies where serious concerns arise over a child's behaviour.*
- *The school's Behaviour Policy will clearly state guidelines on Positive Handling and Physical Intervention including the screening and searching of pupils. The Headteacher will ensure that staff are trained in ways of avoiding or defusing situations in which physical intervention might become necessary, as well as training them in appropriate methods of physical intervention.*

Always happy and interested to hear from parents
- please get in touch with further questions

Contact detail for Governors

Governors@hotham.wandsworth.sch.uk

Thank you for coming!