

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNING BODY OF YOUR SCHOOL

Parent governors

- David Bradley
- Nigel Sanderson

Other governors

- Rebecca Barker (Vice-chair)
- Liz Buxton (Chair)
- Joanne Cook
- Jane Fearnley
- Sarah Jenkinson
- Julie Turner
- Lyn Wortley

Clerk to the governing body

- Deborah Bates

**Greasbrough Primary School is part
of the Willow Tree Academy.**

Willow Tree Academy is an exempt charity regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. It is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (Company Number 09440025), whose registered office is at Herringthorpe Junior School, Chatterton Drive, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S65 2JW

OUR MISSION and AIMS 'Putting children at the heart of everything we do'

Our aims are:

- To provide a welcoming, secure and caring environment where worthwhile and satisfying relationships are formed and where respect and empathy are our guiding principles
- To provide enriching and stimulating curriculum experiences that promote active learning and enable pupils to achieve success in all they do
- To have high expectations of what we can all achieve by working together
- To develop pupils' confidence in their capacity to learn, both independently and collaboratively
- To foster an effective partnership between community, home, and school, so that families can learn together
- To ensure the continuous professional development of all staff and value their personal contribution to the school

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Greasbrough
Primary School



LOCAL GOVERNING BODY

NEWSLETTER

For Parents and
Carers

School year 2017-18

October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Barely is the summer holiday over, before we are nearing the end of the first half term in what we know will continue to be as ever, a very busy school year at Greasbrough.

The school's regular newsletters and opportunities to meet with the staff working with your child are important in keeping you up to date with developments and particularly the progress your child is making. I am pleased also, as Chair of Governors, to be able to write to you from time to time to give all our parents/carers a 'flavour' of some of the issues that your Local Governing Body have been discussing recently.

Firstly, I would like to welcome Reverend Canon Lyn Wortley who has now joined the local governing body. Lyn brings a wealth of experience in the local community to our work and her contribution to our discussions has already been most welcome. I would also like to ask you to join with me in thanking *all* our governors for their work in support of the school. This is, as you will be aware, an entirely voluntary role and requires a lot of time and commitment on behalf of all Greasbrough children.

Governance focuses on three key functions i.e. to set the strategic direction of the school through agreeing its aims and values; holding school leaders to account for the educational performance of pupils and staff; and, ensuring

that the finances available to the school are used to best effect. With this in mind at our first meeting of the new school year, governors re-affirmed the schools mission and aims i.e. '*putting children at the heart of everything we do*'. All schools continue to face challenges presented by budget constraints, changes of staff, new national education policy especially in relation to assessment and much more. Governors are confident that the organisation of learning at Greasbrough is planned in such a way that changes beyond our control are managed in ways to cause the least possible disruption to children. The school has a clear development plan for 2017-18 based on extensive self-evaluation of last year which was shared with governors. We were confident therefore to approve this year's development priorities, all of which build on the continuing improvements in which the school has engaged in recent years. Governors and staff have high ambitions for our school and although we have to recognise that Ofsted continue to 'move the goalposts' and make it tougher and tougher, we still continue to aim to improve upon our last inspection outcome which was already outstanding in several areas! With this ambition in mind, I am proud to share with you that our leaders at Greasbrough have received the outcome of a local authority risk assessment of all schools in Rotherham. This letter says "*Your school has an established trend of strong pupil outcomes. We wish to recognise this notable*

achievement and thank you, your staff and governors for all your hard work and expertise that contribute to the commendable achievement of your pupils. In addition, we wish to thank you and your staff for the significant contribution you have made to productive partnership working across Rotherham Schools. I hope you too will feel as proud as we all do of the continuing success of Greasbrough and its impact on other schools too.

Other issues governors have been discussing:

- Governor visits to school to see aspects of the schools aims put into practice
- Views of pupils on how they are supported in their learning
- A recent health and safety audit designed to make sure we know the short and longer-term issues relating to maintaining our school building and grounds
- A survey of staff views and expectations, similar to our parents/carers survey
- Governor's audit of the collective skills, knowledge and experience which we can draw upon in our work, and our own improvement plan to ensure that governors are continually well prepared to fulfil their responsibilities

Best wishes

Liz Buxton

On behalf of your Local Governing Body