

Overall attendance at  
Governors meetings  
during the 2017/2018  
academic year:

**96%**

**Endon Hall Primary & Nursery School**

**Governor Newsletter**

**Autumn 2018**



I hope you are all well and have enjoyed the first term of the academic year. It's been a year since the governing board last communicated with you and we feel now is a good time to get a back in touch with some key updates and to thank you all for your continued support.

**Staffing** – in September, new staff joined us and they have fitted in very well to our school, we wish them luck on their journey with Endon Hall. I would like to assure parents that we are continually striving to recruit and retain the best teachers and teaching assistants. Whilst we may sometimes have to say goodbye to some who have other opportunities, we are constantly developing our staff through professional development so they can grow and stay with us and give us the continuity we need. Education is constantly changing and we have to change with it, whilst maintaining very high standards in all we do.

**Governors** - I would like to thank Vicky Vincent, who left the governing board in July, for her 3 years' service. We are currently recruiting for her post.

**Finance** – we continue to invest in the school, making decisions at the finance committee on projects to modernise, develop and improve the appearance and sustainability of our school. This will continue in the New Year with new bin storage and improved drainage to the staff car park, replacement glazing and doors, refurbishment of the hall blinds and curtains, and an upgrade to the staff room and staff working space. We are also spending the money raised by the PSFA on Computing equipment and development. We thank everyone involved in raising these funds for their hard work and support. We are also leasing our own mini bus, which gives us more opportunities for our children and also allows us to balance the costs of local authority transport for KS2 weekly swimming lessons.

**Pupil and Curriculum** – teaching and learning, curriculum development and maximising the achievement of all children is at the heart of the decisions made by the pupil and curriculum committee. We are always reviewing policy and practice to improve what we do and the impact it has. This will continue in the New Year through our focus on securing core standards in line with National expectations, further developing the core and wider curriculum, our approach to Well-being and Cultural development and the additional opportunities that the Endon 8 by 11 project was put in place to promote. We thank all those linked with our school for supporting our aims and ethos wholeheartedly.

**Social Media** – this is an area that we have had to raise with you all this term. It's a very powerful tool but, over the past 12 months, the dynamic has changed and the power of conversation has now been replaced by social media groups. There are advantages and disadvantages to this as far more people can now get involved in good and bad conversations, whereas before it would be discussed face to face. We have all the correct avenues open if parents/carers need to discuss any positives or any concerns they may have at school. We need all the school community working together to ensure our children have a positive vibe around them, to make their learning and time at school enjoyable and to ensure that they use social media wisely themselves, when the time comes.

**Absence** – we continue to strive for excellent attendance and again need everyone to focus on and improve this with us. The school year consists of 190 days. Every day does matter. The children can't afford to lose valuable learning time and have to catch up on learning they've missed.

**Parental involvement** – we wish to emphasise the importance of learning at home as we find new ways each year to ensure you are informed and knowledgeable about your child's learning and how you can work with us to help them. Half an hour each night focusing on the basic skills of reading and number facts with the children extends their learning considerably and allows you to be involved in moving them forward. I know that we all lead busy lives but the school journey is a partnership and this time is invaluable for the children.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to everyone that is involved with our school and its community. We wish to continue to work together to make a difference for our children, both personally and academically, so that they can develop and improve every day. Miss Lewis and her team only have one focus at our school and that is the journey through for each and every child. I hope together we can achieve more.

Thank you,

Mr Daniel Higgins  
Chair of the Governing Board

**To find out more about our Governing Board, please visit the Governor  
page on our website — <http://endonhall.staffs.sch.uk/governors/>**

### What were our key funding decisions in 2017-2018?

- Securing of a minibus lease, including to be used for transport to weekly swimming lessons
- Increase to two afternoons of Music teaching instead of one, so that all children from Year 1 to Year 6 are taught Music by a Music specialist every week
- Purchase of new dining room tables and chairs
- Purchase and installation of a canopy in the Nursery outdoor area
- School contribution to Residential visits expenditure

### What were our key areas of focus for 2017-2018?

- Raise Writing attainment and sustain attainment in line with National expectations in all core subjects
- Embed whole school Reading approach and further develop whole school Writing & Maths (Reasoning/Problem Solving) approaches
- Secure and develop delivery and progression in wider curriculum subjects
- Further develop parents understanding of the curriculum and its assessment; and how to support their child's learning and development
- Develop our approach to Cultural development, as part of our Healthy Schools project
- Achieve 'Discover' Arts Award, Silver Sportsmark & Full Dyslexia Friendly status

### Our key areas of focus for 2018-2019...

- Secure Writing attainment and sustain attainment in line with National expectations in all core subjects
- Raise the number of children attaining the National expectation in Reading, Writing and Maths combined
- Further develop whole school Reading & Writing approaches, particularly Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary development, Talk for Writing and Spelling
- Further develop whole school Maths approaches, particularly Concrete, Pictorial & Abstract methods, Guided Reasoning & Problem Solving, Mental Maths, Geometry & Spatial Reasoning
- Secure and further develop depth and breadth in wider curriculum subjects
- Further develop parents understanding of the curriculum and its assessment, including their child's performance in tests, so that they can better support their child's learning and development
- Continue to strengthen Sport across the school, attaining Sportsmark Gold by July 2020
- Develop our approach to Well-being and mental health, as part of our Healthy Schools project

Type	Governor	Sub-committee membership	Link roles
Staff	<b>C Ward</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff Governor</li> </ul>
Parent	<b>C Soboljew</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding/Looked After Children</li> <li>• Prevent</li> <li>• Online Safety</li> </ul>
Parent	<b>P Glimmerveen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance &amp; Premises</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Premises</li> <li>• Community/Stakeholders</li> </ul>
Local Authority	<b>C Reed</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum (Vice Chair)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Educational Needs</li> <li>• Equality &amp; Disability</li> <li>• Pupil Premium</li> <li>• Gifted &amp; Talented</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>D Oliver (Vice Chair)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice Chair of Governing Board</li> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum (Chair)</li> <li>• Pay Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic direction &amp; vision</li> <li>• HTPM</li> <li>• Governor training &amp; development</li> <li>• Attainment &amp; Progress</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>K Adams</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum</li> <li>• BASP &amp; Nursery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Curriculum: Core subjects (English &amp; Maths)</li> <li>• Early Years</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>D Higgins (Chair)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of Governing Board</li> <li>• Finance &amp; Premises (Vice Chair)</li> <li>• BASP &amp; Nursery (Chair)</li> <li>• Pay Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic direction &amp; vision</li> <li>• HTPM</li> <li>• Governor training &amp; development</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>VACANCY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupil &amp; Curriculum</li> <li>• BASP &amp; Nursery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport</li> <li>• Healthy Schools/FBV/SMSC</li> <li>• Behaviour, Attendance and Well being</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>A Durber</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance &amp; Premises (Chair)</li> <li>• BASP &amp; Nursery</li> <li>• Pay Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Premises</li> <li>• Health &amp; Safety</li> </ul>
Co-opted	<b>A Hall</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance &amp; Premises</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finance</li> <li>• Premises</li> <li>• HR (Staffing)</li> </ul>