

# The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School

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Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015

Dear Parent/Carer,

Hello and a very warm welcome from the Governing Body at The Devonshire Hill Nursery and Primary School.

As Governors we are accountable for the performance of the school and we fulfil this by setting its aims priorities for improvement. We agree, monitor and evaluate the policies, targets and actions by which the school will move forward, including setting and monitoring the school budget.

The Governing Body's role is strategic. Governors are not expected to be involved in the detail of the day-to-day management of the school. The Headteacher has responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school and for implementation of the strategic framework established by the Governing Body.

The Governing Body works in partnership with the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team. Acting as 'critical friends', the Governing Body has a role to support and challenge the work of the school.

As Governors we must act corporately. Individual Governors do not have the power to act alone unless the corporate Governing Body has given them the authority to do so. Individual Governors have a broadly representative role but they are part of a team. We are not delegates and do not have any kind of mandate from the body who elected or appointed us.

Queries and concerns about any aspect of school life should, in the first instance, be directed to the appropriate member of the school staff rather than to individual Governors. It is important that Governors are not involved in issues which may become formal complaints as this prevents Governors from dealing with the matter impartially at a later stage. Should you wish to pursue a matter further, having first attempted to resolve the issue with the relevant school staff, then please put your concern in writing to the Chair of Governors.

The full Governing Body meets at least once a term. In line with its strategic role, its focus for these meetings is school improvement. At these meetings, the Governing Body discusses issues such as the School Improvement Plan, Headteacher's report, allocation of our Pupil Premium Grant, Governor visits, committee reports etc. The minutes from the full Governing Body meetings are posted below.

In addition to the full Governing Body meetings, we manage a substantial part of our work through committees, specifically the Resources Committee, the Curriculum and Achievement Committee and the Children, Families and Community Committee. The full terms of reference for each of the committees can be found on the school policies page on this website.

We are a very committed and active Governing Body. As well as fulfilling our duties by both supporting and challenging the Headteacher and her Senior Leadership Team, we also enjoy being involved in day to day events. All staff and governors work together with a common aim of providing a safe and vibrant learning environment in which all children can reach their potential and have an enjoyable experience in this wonderful school. As parents and carers, you are very much part of the whole school community and your opinions and comments are very valuable to us.

Yours sincerely,

Steven Lock  
Chair of Governors

