

~ ~ ~ Governor News ~ ~ ~

We are now over half-way through the school year. The pupils and staff have had many challenges and successes already and there is still the Summer Term to complete. School is expecting a visit from OFSTED sometime this academic year, either in what remains of the Spring Term or during the Summer Term. Whenever the inspection takes place the school is well prepared and governors will show that they are well acquainted with the school, the pupils and staff. The governors will also need to show how they are supporting the work being done at Rosebank School and part of their role is to question, monitor and challenge how the Headteacher works and what is going on in the school.



*Rosebank Governors, left to right:
Jude McGuinness, Headteacher, Dilys Hooper, Co-opted Governor
Tamara Downes, Parent Governor, Mel Rathbone, Co-opted Governor
Jo Moores, Parent Governor, Jackie Boyer, Staff Governor
Sarah Steen, Co-opted Governor (Vice Chair of Governors)
Ann White, LA Governor (Chair of Governors)
Sarah Worth, Co-opted Governor*

The Governing Body at Rosebank was reconstituted on 19th March 2015 in line with new government legislation. The new Governing Body has a similar make up to the previous one, but with 10 governors where we previously had nine. We have 5 elected core governors: one local authority representative, two parent governors, the Headteacher and one staff governor. In addition, we have in place four co-opted (appointed) governors and one vacancy for a co-opted governor. We will have a vacancy for a Parent Governor in December when a current term of office ends.



We have looked at the skills present governors have and have identified that when looking for an additional parent or co-opted governor, someone with business/financial skills and an interest in autism would really be of benefit. So ~ if there is anyone out there who is looking for an interesting challenge we would love to hear from you! For more information or an informal chat about what the role of governor is about, please contact Jane Nicholls, Clerk to the Governors, at school. All present governors' contact details are available on the Rosebank website.

Last term the Governing Body undertook some training ~ 'Meeting the Lead Inspector' ~ in preparation for the expected OFSTED inspection. The training showed us the importance of governors having a good working knowledge of how the school is operating, how pupils are performing and what could be done to support the school in driving up standards across the board. As part of on-going governor development we are planning to do further training ~ Governor Accreditation Programme (GAP) ~ next term. The exercises will be based upon Rosebank's own facts, figures and data which will make the training directly relevant and we hope will serve to make the data in school more meaningful to all our governors.



School now have fantastic 'state of the art' iBoards in every classroom and one in the new meeting room. The governors are indebted to the Eric Kay Charitable Trust for very kindly covering the cost of this equipment. It is a very generous donation to the school and every pupil will benefit from this gift.

Once again Governors would like to thank staff, pupils, parents, carers and friends for all their efforts that make Rosebank into a happy, successful school for pupils with autism.



Best wishes for a Happy Easter and a sunny Summer Term.

Ann White (Chair of Governors)