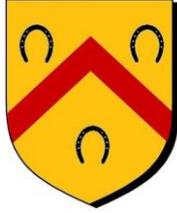




# The Pochin School

## Governing Body Newsletter Autumn Term 2017



Welcome to the report of the Governing Body. This short report shows who the Governors are and what we have done in the Autumn Term

### Who are the Governors?

The Governing Body is a group of volunteers responsible for the overall management of the school. Find out more about who we are at:  
[www.pochin.leics.sch.uk](http://www.pochin.leics.sch.uk)

### Parent Governors

Julie Barker  
Kate Sheppard  
Navdeep Cozens-Patel  
Nisha Varia

### Co-opted Governors

Gill Hussey (Chair)  
Jane Mount  
Ria Sharpe  
Melanie Bree  
Vicky Garratt

### Staff Governors

Michelle O'Dell  
Jo Linnett

### Clerk to Governors

Dawn Woolerton

### What do school governors do?

- We hold the Headteacher and senior leaders to account for the educational performance of the school – through visits to school and challenging when necessary
- We decide on how the resources of the school are best used
- We plan ahead so that the performance of our children and school continue to improve
- We make sure the school environment is welcoming and safe
- We celebrate the school's successes

### Our New Headteacher

The governors we would like to formally welcome Miss O'Dell to our school, she has made a very positive impact on our school already.

The governors appointed Miss O'Dell as far back as January 2017 and since that time she has been working with Mr Cotton and Mrs Sharpe, as our Deputy Headteacher, to bring about as smooth a transition to the school as possible.

We look forward to working with her in the years to come and wish her every success.

**STAYING  
SAFE  
ONLINE**



Governors take very seriously the well-being of all the pupils in our school and it was therefore very alarming for us to discover at a recent safeguarding briefing that Syston and Thurmaston is known by the police as a particular hot spot for child sexual exploitation through the use of the internet.

Internet safety is a subject that is already taught within the curriculum but the staff and governors are planning a week next term on keeping safe that will include a specific focus on e-safety.

In the meantime as parents and Carers you can obtain more information about keeping your children safe when using the internet at home by following the links that can be found on the school website in the 'webzone' dropdown box.

**This term governors have been....**

- Welcoming our two new parent governors, Navdeep Cozens-Patel and Nisha Varia
- Analysing data from the SAT tests to help steer the school in improving standards further
- Monitoring that staff understand the safe administration of medicines to children
- Learning about guided reading and how we can monitor progress in reading later in the year
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the music policy
- Reviewing the school's finances and confirming that strong control procedures are in place
  
- Performance managing the Headteacher

## **Focus on the Health and Safety Committee**

The role of the governors on this committee is to ensure that the school is a safe environment for all pupils, staff and visitors.

We do this by monitoring all aspects of health and safety in the school and checking that the school's policies are being followed. Areas we might consider include:

- The maintenance of the internal and external areas of the site
- Fire regulations
- Security of the site
- Child protection
- Ensuring the safe recruitment of staff

## **Car parking**

Following Miss O'Dell's mention of parking in a recent newsletter the governors would like to echo our thanks to those parents and Carers who park considerately outside school. By this we mean being mindful of the local residents and not blocking driveways and taking great care where cars are turned around in order to maintain the safety of your children.

As governors we are aware that Miss O'Dell spends some considerable time speaking to residents about this problem which is time we are sure you would rather see her spend on your children's education.



**The governors wish you all a very Happy Christmas**

