

Inkberrow First School

Governors Report 2018



'Love to learn, learn to care'



WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Governors currently comprise a group of 13 volunteers who work hard to challenge and support the school where we can. This year we said goodbye to Steve Wilkes. He has served his term as an Associate Governor and has supported Inkberrow First School (IFS) well, using his teaching background. We thank him for his valuable input.

Parent Governor elections were held this year and we welcomed Lou Chance as your successful candidate. She has a wealth of Safeguarding expertise to share with us.

Please remember to speak to any of the Governors should you have something you would like to be discussed at our meetings. We are all here to help school where we can and work in partnership. Approved Minutes are available on the school website.

Governors had the opportunity to attend a 'Meet & Greet' event held by the Avonreach MAT. This gave us the chance to meet up with governors from other schools in the MAT and Trustees and we hope this will be the beginning of a really effective collaboration which will help Inkberrow continue to grow and develop.

Governors have continued to attend relevant training this year, including on Safer Recruitment Procedures, in order to keep abreast of necessary developments.

You will be aware that as a school, we have rolled out a Growth Mindset initiative. This extended to Staff and Governors, who were challenged to try something new together. We really put ourselves in the children's shoes!



GOODBYE AND WELCOME

Sadly, we say goodbye to Mrs Jones who is leaving Inkberrow and relocating. Mrs Jones has been the longest serving member of staff, having taught here for 25 years. She has led music within school, been a champion of Forest School, as well as our SEN lead. We wish her well on her new life journey and extend our sincere thanks for the contributions she has made to school life at IFS. We welcome Miss Fowler who, as a newly qualified teacher, will be teaching the Robins in Year One. She is an enthusiastic character who has many musical skills she can employ with your children in the future.

Mrs Casati begins her maternity leave in September. We wish her all the best as she welcomes the new addition to her family. We are fortunate that Mrs Berry will be teaching the Wrens in her absence (along with Mrs Robinson). Mrs Berry, who was a Teacher of the Year in 2015, brings a wealth of Early Years' experience and the team are looking forward to working with her until Mrs Casati's return. We also say goodbye to Ms Holtom who is leaving her teaching assistant role to complete an NQT Induction Year and takes on the role of class teacher in pastures new. We wish her every success with this.

We say farewell to the Swans too in Year Four as they move on to middle or secondary school. As usual, Inkberrow staff have liaised carefully with schools during this transition period. We wish each of them continued success and hope that the Inky Values and Growth Mindset they have developed here at IFS will help them spread their wings. *"It has been lots of fun teaching you this year! You are a great bunch of children and your middle schools are lucky to have you!" Mrs McPherson*



Mrs Berry



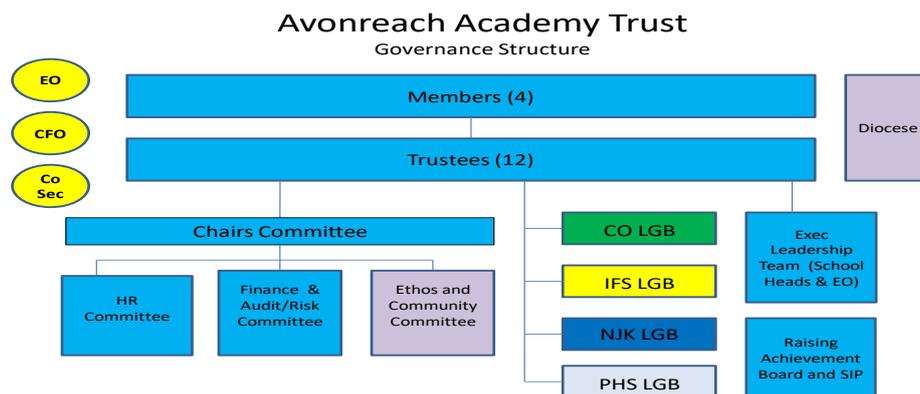
Miss Fowler

MAT/CHANGE OF AGE RANGE

Since the formation of AAT in August 2017, the Trustees (Directors) have prepared a case and gone through consultation for the three First Schools to become Primary Schools (thus retaining Years 5 and 6) and for Pershore High School to take pupils at Year 7. Within the area served by the four schools there has been a great deal of positive support, along with some negative responses. The final decision lies with The Regional Schools Commissioner who takes advice from a group of educationalists. I am disappointed that we are unlikely to be able to give you a decision before the end of term, but, as I have explained in Newsletters, it really is out of our hands. I again assure you that we will inform you of the decision as soon as we can.

Ann Derbyshire, Chair of Governors

Below is an organisational structure demonstrating how the three first schools (CO-Cherry Orchard, IFS-Inkberrow First School, NJK-Norton Juxta Kempsey) and Pershore High School Local Governing Bodies operate within the structure of the Multi Academy Trust (MAT). One of the groups working within AAT is the Education Leadership Team which includes the Headteachers of the four schools. This group is focusing mainly on the content and delivery of the curriculum. Their shared ideas, research, experience and support are already proving to be very valuable. Further information can be found at the Avonreach Academy Trust Website (www.Avonreach.org).



CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS

We are very lucky at IFS that the children have the opportunity to experience learning in so many different ways !



"...these opportunities are memories that will stay."

(comment from a parent)

FRIENDS OF INKBERROW FIRST SCHOOL (FOIFS)

This year we said goodbye to Amanda Wallis and Charlotte Neale as Chair and Vice Chair of FOIFS. We thank them for all their hard work during their time in these roles and the fundraising that IFS has benefitted greatly from, raising around £14,000 in their term of office. We welcome new leaders in the form of Karen Uppal and Sarah James. The new team has already organised two successful events and raised £2296.58 since Easter.

Please continue to support the fantastic events created by FOIFS whether that be by attending or helping. They are always looking for support and the funds raised enhance your child's school life in so many ways. This year FOIFS have contributed 50% to the cost of the Running Track, purchased books and are funding an interactive whiteboard for the new support room. The Governors would like to thank the whole FOIFS Team and everyone who supports them.

NEW AROUND SCHOOL

There have been lots of exciting developments in and around school this year. The most visible of these has been the completion of building works for our new support room, which can be used for Special Educational Needs (SEN), meetings or group work. It is a fantastic space which is a real asset to the school. The canopy has been rebuilt and extended across the front of the new building and the Wrens classroom, enabling outdoor learning to take place whatever the weather. Another new construction has been the running track, ready for the 'Mile a Day' challenge. As previously mentioned, this was jointly funded by FOIFS and our fabulous skydivers and Mrs Crawford and Mrs Bromley!

Growth Mindset is a new initiative that has been embraced by staff and children alike this year. It has had a positive impact on their attitudes to learning and will be developed further next year.

We also welcome new food providers for school meals in September and are excited by the choices that will be provided for your children by Miquill Catering. Their user-friendly and accessible ordering methods will hopefully offer parents more versatility.

DATA HEADLINES 2016/17

The following information highlights the brilliant academic performance of the children at IFS.

Our Data chart from the last academic year shows that our high standards have been maintained, with attainment yet again above both the local authority and national levels. There are no national comparisons for Years 3 and 4 as they have not yet completed the Key Stage 2 curriculum. However, the End of Year Age standardised scores in Year 4 show a high % working at Age Related Expectations and a high percentage above. These are used by the Middle Schools as a standard comparison between cluster schools.

RECEPTION:	<p>% Attaining a Good Level of Development CLASS = 83% GOOD LEVEL of DEVELOPMENT - Above both Local Authority and National Statistics NATIONAL = 71% GLD. LOCAL AUTHORITY = 70% GLD</p>
YEAR ONE	<p>PHONICS TEST - Above both Local Authority and National Statistics SCHOOL = 87% Attained Standards for Age NATIONAL = 80% LOCAL AUTHORITY = 81%</p>
YEAR TWO	<p>% Attaining Age Related Expectations IFS was In the top 1% of all schools nationally for Attainment SCHOOL R = 96%, W = 89%, M = 93% NATIONAL R = 76%, W = 69%, M = 75% <i>Above both Local Authority and National Statistics</i></p>
YEAR FOUR	<p>INCAS (STANDARD AGE TESTS) - No National Comparison GENERAL MATHS 95% at expected + (52% above expected) READING 95% expected + (62% above expected)</p>

Data Headlines / Comparisons for 2017/18 are published in October 2018.

Our School analysis to date shows excellent progress and attainment for the 2017/18 academic year with attainment above the Local Authority and National based on initial data feedback.

TEACHING STAFF

We would like to thank all of the teaching staff who work so tirelessly and enthusiastically to provide the very best learning conditions for all the children at IFS. They nurture each child's personal growth, encourage and really care.

"I'm yet again amazed by just how fantastic this little school is..."

(comment from a parent)

PARENTS, CARERS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY

The governors would like to extend our thanks to you also. Partnership between home and school is vital for everyone to get the most out of every single day at IFS. We hope that this partnership continues to thrive next year. We wish you all a fantastic, restful and fun-filled summer !



"The children and staff are so friendly, I love just popping in, it's such a warm environment."

(comment from a community member)