



Scargill CE VA Primary School
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Dear Parents,

As promised, I am writing to you to let you know about the result of our Review of Governance which was completed by a National Leader of Governance in April.

In her summary report Linda Du-Roe made some comments which I hope that you find reassuring:

- “The governing board appear highly supportive of the school and are keen to swiftly address any area of their own practice and procedures that may require improvement. They appear very committed to improving the school and providing the best education possible for their pupils.”
- “It is evident from discussion and work done at the self-review evening that governors have commitment and passion for the school and are aware of its strengths, weaknesses and developmental plans.”
- “Governor visits and attendance at school events is also an important part of a governor’s role and Scargill’s governors recognise this and do undertake this as part of their role.”

The outcome of the 3 meetings was an Action Plan, to be carried out over the next term, on which the Governors are now working. I would like to share the 3 Priorities for improvement with you; they are:

1. to increase efficiency and effectiveness of the governing body (organisation and meeting content);
2. to improve monitoring and evaluation;
3. to enhance Governor skills, knowledge and training.
4. Pupil Progress and Outcomes Awareness.

We have increased evidence of challenge, questions and follow up in meeting minutes. We are in the process of formulating new committee Terms of Reference after reviewing which committees are needed to function effectively. There is already evidence of active governor participation in monitoring activities linked to the School Improvement Plan so now we need to better demonstrate their impact. We aim to increase our knowledge and awareness of staff responsibilities, staff appraisal systems and staff Continued Professional Development taking place and its impact on pupil achievement. We are trying to increase our knowledge and understanding of pupil tracking, support and intervention initiatives, progress and outcomes in order to discuss the impact of provision and assess the impact of teaching on learning.

Linda Du-Roe concluded, “As a result of the governance review process, governors are now more aware of the current expectations with regard to monitoring and assessing the impact of policy and practices within school, supporting the school through appropriate challenge and questioning (and providing evidence of this within meeting minutes and monitoring documentation). They are keen to quickly address the areas of improvement that have been identified during the governance review process. Governors are highly supportive of the school and are committed to ensuring the pupils at Scargill CofE Primary School attain good outcomes and achieve to the best of their ability in a caring and supportive school environment.”

Yours sincerely,

Linda Webster
Chair of Governors