



Ox Close Federation Governor Newsletter

July 2022 Edition

Who Are We?

Pam Sneath – Co-opted Governor, Chair of Ox Close Federation and Looked After Children Lead

Dave Stone – Co-opted Governor, Vice Chair of Ox Close Federation and Chair of Finance and Resources

Debra Swinburn – Co-opted Governor and Chair of Leadership and Management

Liz Maddison – Local Authority Governor and Safeguarding Lead

Wendy Hall – Co-opted Governor and SEND Lead

Daniel Harrison – Executive Headteacher

Steven Bowen – Co-opted Governor and Chair of Quality of Education

Margaret Ward – Co-opted Governor

Nic Milne - Co-opted Governor

Anna Bowden – Head of School and Co-opted Governor

Jeanne Taylor – Head of Nursery and Staff Governor

Sarah Aungiers—Parent Governor

Liam Clough—Parent Governor



Wow what a fabulous term to end the academic year on!

Attendance

Attendance has continued to be good this term and we would once again like to thank you for the support and common-sense approach that has been shown to allow us to continue with as much stability as possible for your children, no matter what stage they are at.

New School

As you will be aware, the plans have been approved and we are waiting to find out who the building contractors will be. We are moving in to very exciting times and we can announce that following consultation with staff and governors, our new name from September 2024 will be Springmoor Grange School. This was chosen to represent the original land which was made up of spring bushes in the place known officially as Tudhoe Grange. Decisions regarding new uniform and logo will be made next school year. We want to involve the children in this so look out for the logo competition.

We have set up groups made up of staff and governors to consider the key priorities of traffic management, transition and community liaison as we are very aware that there are some areas we need to work through before we open.

New School Business Manager

Mrs Tracey Jackson will be joining us in September to take up this new, crucial role as we move towards amalgamation and the new site.

Wraparound Care

As many of you are getting back to normal working, the demand for our wraparound provision has increased. To support this, we have extended the care for up to 25 places. From September, the provision is rebranded to Early Risers and Tea Timers with extended opening hours, new pricing tariff and an exciting programme of activities. Attached is our new information booklet for more details.



Recent Parent Survey

Thank you for completing this which helps us to maintain and improve the Federation - please see over the page for the findings.

Good Luck to our Leavers

We would like to wish all children who are leaving us to start their next chapter the very best of luck and continue to be the best that they can be.

Happy Summer!

Finally, we would like to thank the children, parents, carers and staff for their hard work, support and dedication and we wish you all a safe, healthy and happy holiday.

What do the Governors do?

We have three core functions which are:

- Giving the school a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the Executive Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

Parent Survey Findings

It was pleasing to see that 100% of parents and carers believed that they knew who to approach in Nursery or School if they had a query or concern.

Over 95% agree that their child feels safe in school, knows who to speak to if they are upset or unhappy, felt that the school has a positive, respectful culture in which their child is well cared for, that the school supports their child to develop resilience, confidence and independence and that their child enjoys coming to school and is happy.

From the comments received, we have considered the following actions and shared with senior leaders:

Communication	More consistency in approach to be used via SeeSaw and on website.
Communication	At least 24 hours' notice to be given if changes for PE sessions to support shift patterns and working parents.
Wraparound Care	Times have been extended to fit in better with working parents.
Wraparound Care	We will avoid heavily processed food and provide more healthy options in both provisions.



How can we be contacted?

If you would like to speak to a member of the Governing Body, then messages can be passed on via the school office or through emailing the Chair of Governors at p.sneath600@durhamlearning.net

Where can I find out more about the Governing Body?

More information can be found on the website below:

<http://www.ox-close.durham.sch.uk/about-us/our-governing-body/>

Future Updates

Our next Governor Newsletter will be at the end of the Autumn Term.