

Governor Newsletter

Wren Park Primary School



Hello and welcome

On behalf of the Wren Park Governing Board, we would like to welcome you to our Governor newsletter. We try to regularly communicate an update of Governor activity, how we support the school, staff and represent you as Parents / Carers of children at the school.

Who are we and what do we do?

The Board of Governors has three overarching responsibilities:

- Setting the strategic direction for the school
- Holding the school to account for its educational performance
- Ensuring the financial health and probity of the school, and making sure it delivers value for money

We aim to ensure that the educational and developmental needs of children are met and that our children are provided with a good primary-level education that gives them the best possible start in life.

Full Governor Board meetings are held termly as well as other sub committees which meet termly to discuss areas such as the curriculum, personnel, finance and building issues.

The Governors are encouraged to visit school during the day, to get hands on experience, see how things are for the children at school and monitor certain aspects of the school. Individual governors take roles for different curriculum areas such as SEND, Safeguarding and Early Years.

There is a wide range of skills and expertise within the Governing Board which helps provide the support and scrutiny required.

Update from our last Governors meetings

Governors met this term to review the following policies

- Safeguarding Policy
- Equality Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Charges and Remissions Policy
- Accessibility policy

We continue to work with the school to ensure policies are maintained and up to date.



RESPECTFUL



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Wren Park School Governors

Alex Buckley Head Teacher

Gill Petitt Staff governor

Nathan Bull Staff governor

Lauren Harvey Staff governor

Kevin Rayner Parent Governor, Chair of Governing Board and Chair of Resources Committee

Simon Chilvers Co-opted governor

Liz Hanson Co-opted governor

Ian Care Local Authority governor

Gurjinder Khunkhun Co-opted governor

Emma Stewart Parent governor

Helen Hagan Co-opted governor, Chair of Teaching and Learning Committee

Kuljit Bolina Johal Parent Governor

Rachel Fox Clerk to Governors and School Business Manager

All the governors are very approachable and are happy to speak to parents. Governors can be contacted in the first instance by communicating with the school or by e-mail to admin@wrenpark.sch.derby.uk

Governors cannot get involved in individual matters and request that you approach school staff for children matters.

A governor will always try to be present at open evenings and other events and can be approached in person.

Headteacher news

You will have seen the news that Mr Buckley is leaving our school at the end of the summer term. He has been at Wren Park for 25 years and Headteacher for 20 years.

He has dedicated a large part of his working life to our children at Wren Park and his steady leadership has been very much appreciated by parents/carers, staff and governors.

As a governing board, we would like to offer our immense thanks for his tireless commitment to all our children and send him our very best wishes for the next chapter. We have been involved with interim arrangements for school leadership and we are pleased to confirm that Mrs Petitt will be taking on the Acting Headteacher role and Mr Bull will be Acting Deputy Head which ensures good continuity for the children and parents/carers. School will be working on appointing a long term Headteacher for September 2027 and will be working with the local Authority on this.



Best of luck to our Year 6 pupils

We would like to wish all Year 6 pupils the very best of luck with their next chapter. We hope that they will look back on their time at Wren Park with fondness, feel that they have gained good skills, knowledge and confidence from their time here and are looking forward to secondary school.

School Buildings

As Mr Buckley has communicated to you, we are looking forward to the start of the building work which will consist of a 4 classroom block and a MUGA (Multi Use Games Area). This will be of huge benefit to our children with more space for year groups and interventions and a games area that won't get muddy! Works will start soon and should be finished by Spring 2027.

Attendance Changes from September 2026

From September 2026, we will be introducing Penalty Notices (fines) for unauthorised term-time holidays and irregular school attendance, in line with Local Authority guidance and the approach taken by other schools. If your child is recorded absent for having missed 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absence within a 10 week rolling period you may also be subject to a Penalty Notice.

Penalty Notices are issued to the parent of their child and will be charged £160 if paid with 28 days reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days. If your child is absent for 20 or more school days you are likely to be prosecuted rather than having a Penalty Notice being issued. Please talk to school if you need support with your child's attendance.

Ofsted

As you will know, Ofsted came in to inspect Wren Park in early May. We are waiting for the final report which should be published by the end of June. We believe that the document will show the progress that school has made since the previous inspection as well as highlighting where school can further improve. The governor role includes supporting the leadership team to develop plans which address areas for improvement and monitoring the impact that these plans have.

Other news

We always endeavour to keep the children at the heart of what we do so we thought we would include just a couple of pieces of news but of course there is much more on the website.

Football – the girls and boys football teams are having a good season. The girls are through to the final of the cup and are second in the league so far. The boys' season has been mixed but they continue to play with enthusiasm and enjoy representing their school. Well done to all the children.

Derby Theatre – on 1st May, some children did a performance at Derby Theatre called Dream Fest. They performed on stage and watched other schools performing songs from musical theatre. They also worked with West End stars during the day and attended a careers workshop. It was a day that the children will remember for a long time.

All children at Wren Park have individual talents whether that be sport, music, art, chess, debating or something completely different. We are very proud of all their achievements.



New Build Coming Soon

The building work is due to start on **20th July** with completion expected in **Spring**. When children return to school in September bricklaying will already be underway, giving everyone a clear view of the progress being made.

The new development will include:

- Four-classroom block
- A new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA)

Many thanks and best wishes.

Kuljit Bolina Johal and Helen Hagan on behalf of the Governing Board