



CAMPSBOURNE GOVERNORS NEWSLETTER

January 2017

email: chairofgovernors@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk

web: www.campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk/governance

Winter Term News plus What We Do and Who We Are

NEWS

New Governors

We are pleased to welcome Jim Barten and Brij Sharma (both parents) to Campsbourne's Governing Body.



Jim is a 22-year veteran of the financial services sector with a breadth of knowledge in the short and long term financing markets. His experience in setting and managing budgets will be a benefit to the school and the Governing Body.



Brij joins us as an associate governor (non-voting). He has a strong track record of delivering high profile economic and financial reviews and audits. He also has significant experience in corporate governance, accountability and change management, having worked on the governing body of the BBC.

New Forest School Area: Development of Eco Pod Outdoor Space

We agreed at our last Full Governing Body meeting to fund a substantial redevelopment of the currently redundant outdoor space adjacent to the Eco Pod (the new wooden building at the end of the middle playground).



The plan is to create an all-weather eco-learning environment for the children, rooted firmly in the principles of [Forest Schools](#). It will be a unique resource, linking the outdoors to the Eco Pod building so children can get up close and hands on with nature.

Aside from the complete refurbishment of the space and the small pond, some of the ideas proposed for the development include planted areas, solar panel arrays, and wildlife observation spaces. The school will keep you updated and will gather feedback from you as the plan develops.

We hope to obtain some additional funds from the council as well to make it even more amazing, and that it will be ready for action by Autumn 2017, if not sooner.

Thanks must be given to the HSA Committee, and to all parents, who did a fantastic job fundraising for the Eco Pod. All your efforts make a huge difference in times when school budgets are really being stretched.

A Word on School Structure and Funding

As you may be aware, the government proposed converting all state schools into academies by 2020. These plans have now been watered down, so as it stands we will not be forced down this route, and we can if we wish remain as a maintained community school. Meanwhile the Department for Education is busy finalising funding changes that will see our school and many others facing reductions in their budgets over the coming years.

The Governing Body is keeping a close eye on these ongoing developments in funding and school structures, and exploring all options so we are prepared for the changing education landscape and can ensure a successful and sustainable future for the school in years to come.



Thank you to Jonathan

This January will mark the first year of Jonathan Smith's tenure as Head of Campsbourne and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work so far, a lot of which is done behind the scenes. He is doing an incredible amount to transform the school and we as governors have every confidence in his vision.

Jonathan puts the school's children at the heart of all his decisions, working to ensure they all receive the best possible education regardless of their needs. Thanks to Jonathan, Campsbourne is now embarking on its journey to become a Forest School with children in our Nursery going into the woods of Alexandra Park every Thursday, making the most of this wonderful resource. There are plans afoot to extend this initiative to all year groups.

Coffee Morning on Friday 24th March

We actively encourage communication with parents and invite you to come along to meet the governors at the Red Nose Day Coffee morning on Friday 24th March. More details to follow.

Attend our Meetings/Contact Us

Parents are welcome to attend governor meetings (except the confidential bits), and to contact governors at any time with ideas, concerns and questions about the school.

But, if you want to discuss something to do with your own child, please always go in the first instance to your teacher or the Headteacher.

To get in touch with us, and for info on upcoming meeting dates, email us at: chairofgovernors@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk

CAMPSBOURNE SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY

email: chairofgovernors@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk

web: www.campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk/governance

What We Do and Who We Are

The Governing Body are responsible for working with the school to ensure that it delivers a good quality education. Together with the Headteacher, who is responsible for day-to-day management, we set the school's aims and policies.

Makeup

The Governing Body has 13 members in all, made up of a mix of parents, staff, and co-opted (i.e. appointed by the governing body) volunteers, plus the Headteacher. There's a full list of our names and roles at the end of this newsletter and on the governance webpage of the Campsbourne website:

www.campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk/about-us/governance/meet-the-governors/.

The constitution of Campsbourne's Governing Body changed recently because the Local Authority advised that, as a federated school (we are in fact two schools, infant and junior), Campsbourne should have no more than two parent governors. Therefore some of the governors who were parent governors (and elected by you, the parents of the school) became co-opted governors.

Role

Our main job is to:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- Hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- Oversee the financial performance of the school and make sure its money is well spent



We also carry out a number of other duties, which include:

- Determining how the school's budget is spent
- The appointing and dismissing of staff
- Hearing appeals and grievances
- Forming policy on the school's curriculum
- Setting standards for pupils' behaviour and discipline
- Making sure school buildings are welcoming and safe
- Setting and monitoring the school's aims and policies

Strategic, Not Operational

Since our role as governors is strategic, we do not get involved in the operational, day-to-day running of the school, this is the role of the Headteacher and the staff.

How We Work – Meetings

The governors meet as a whole group at least four times per year, and we also meet at least once a term on either the Curriculum and Standards or Resources Committees. Parents are welcome to attend our meetings.



All our discussions and decisions are minuted, and published in [the full governing body](#) or [the committee](#) area of the Campsbourne School website governance pages.

The Resources Committee

The Resources Committee focuses on making sure the school is spending its money wisely, and it also keeps a careful eye on health and safety, and on the maintenance and improvement of the school's buildings and grounds. This year we are particularly focusing on how best to improve the school premises and helping ensure our structure and finances can cope with predicted reductions in income from government in the next few years.

The Curriculum and Standards Committee

The priority of the Curriculum and Standards Committee is to ensure that the school delivers the highest standards of teaching and learning for all Campsbourne children. The Committee is responsible for overseeing the quality of teaching, learning and assessment, as well as agreeing challenging targets for pupils' attainment, development and welfare. We check that teaching quality is monitored and staff development is implemented, and we evaluate strategies to improve attainment.

Link Governors

Some of the governors also have responsibility for specific aspects of the school. These areas are Special Needs, STEM (Science, D&T and Maths), Health and Safety, Safeguarding/Child Protection, Literacy, the Pupil Premium. The link governors are listed below and in the full list of the governors on the Campsbourne website. If you'd like to talk them about their particular link topic do get in touch with them via our email (chairofgovernors@campsbourne.haringey.sch.uk) or if you see them at school.

The complete list of members of the Campsbourne Governing Body
(as of January 2017)

Jim	Barten	Co-opted (and parent)	
Jaqueline	Broadhead	Local Authority	Chair of Curriculum Safeguarding Link
Richard	Buckley	Co-opted	Pupil Premium Link
Karen	Edgar	Staff	
Marion	Groshong	Parent	Special Needs Link
Frederica	Hunter	Co-opted (and staff)	Literacy Link
Eleanor	Jones	Parent	
David	Libbert	Co-opted	Chair of Resources
Stuart	Parker	Co-opted (and parent)	Chair of Governors Health & Safety Link
Jude	Pow	Co-opted (and parent)	
Brij	Sharma	Associate (and parent)	
Jonathan	Smith	Headteacher	
Melanie	Washington	Co-opted (and parent)	STEM Link