



Welcome from the Governing Board to Parents, Families and Carers





Dear Parents, Families and Carers,

I do hope that you had an enjoyable and restful summer.

As is often the case, the summer seemed to fly by, and we're now already over a month into the new school year.

Following our letter in July, and as we welcome new young people and their parents, families and carers, to our two schools, the Governing Board thought it would be helpful to tell you about our objectives and plans for the year ahead.

Later in this letter, you can also find a quick reminder about the school Governors and our role.





School Strategic Plans

An important responsibility of the Governing Board is to each year review and approve the Federation's strategic plans and school development plans, and to oversee their implementation and progress.





School Strategic Plans

Working with Bradley, Marianne, Rhonda and Steve, the Governing Board are now completing our final review of the plans for 2023/24. The various plans are appropriately aligned and include a focus on the following areas:

Quality of Teaching: development of the curriculum; subject leadership; embedding the Termly Progress and Provision process, linking with the ECHPs; and developing staff understanding of pupil regulation and behaviour

Behaviour: building on the work linked to the Behaviour Hub; introducing an effective staff and pupil debrief process; and supporting the wider needs of children through opportunities to engage in a diverse array of activities

Personal Development: enhancing our 'pupil voice'

Leadership and Management: staff wellbeing, including retention and supervision of staff; individual staff training and development; and leadership development



School Strategic Plans continued

Early Years: parental engagement; and developing children's communication skills

6th Form: achieve compliance with the Gatsby benchmarks, relating to post-19 opportunities; and providing relevant work related experiences

Progress in implementing these plans will be reviewed and monitored by the Governing Board, working closely with Bradley and his team, throughout the year ahead.



Our Objectives

Each year the Governors review and agree the Governing Board's key objectives for the academic year. For the 2023/24 academic year, the following objectives have been agreed:

1. Monitor the review and development of plans to support the expected growth in pupil numbers;
2. Develop the capability and skills of the Governing Board with new Governors on board;
3. Complete an external review of governance and compile/develop a plan from the subsequent findings;
4. Continue to improve engagement with stakeholders, including parents, families and carers;
5. Oversee and monitor the successful implementation of the Health and Wellbeing plan for staff.



Our Partnership

The success of the Federation and making sure that Booker Park and Stocklake Park provide your children and young people with the opportunity to develop and flourish in a caring, happy, friendly and safe environment is the result of a partnership between the school's leadership team, teachers and staff, the Governing Board and you as parents, family and carers. We all have a part to play.

Throughout the year ahead, your Governing Board will continue to do its best to provide help, support and constructive challenge for Bradley and his team, and, in working with our amazing team of dedicated teachers and support staff, play our part in ensuring that the schools provide your children with the opportunity to be the best they can be.

Thank you for all that you do to support the children and our schools.

If you would like to know more about what the Governing Board does, please do let me know or speak with any of the Governors.

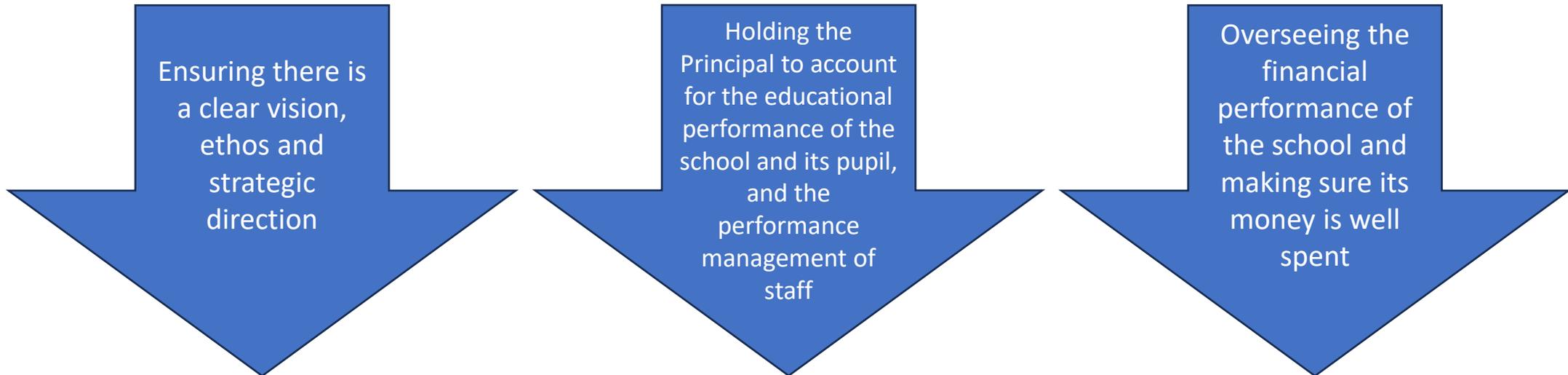


A Few Quick Reminders about the Governing Board

1. The Role of the Governing Board

The Vale Federation has a Governing Board consisting of parents, members of the local community, the Principal, and a representative of the Local Authority.

The Governors are not involved in the day to day running of the schools, which is the responsibility of Bradley, Marianne, Rhonda and Steve and their teams. The Governing Board of any school has three core functions, as set out by the Government's Department of Education:





In performing these core functions, we also have a responsibility to ensure that the voices of the different sets of stakeholders are heard and taken into account.

The Governing Board has overall responsibility for the aims and direction of the Federation. Bradley, as Principal, and the school leadership team are responsible for the implementation of policy, the curriculum, and the day-to-day management of the Federation and its two schools, and is accountable to the Governing Board.





2. Who We Are

Type of Governor	Number of Positions	Governors
Co-opted Governors (from the local community)	6	Becky Belardo Natalie Hearmon Margaret Nyambayo Dave Pearce (Chair of the Governing Board) Prashanta Parbhoo Jason Stone
Local Authority Governor	1	Angela Coneron
Parent Governors	2	Luke Askew Nigel Westacott
Principal	1	Bradley Taylor
Staff Governor	1	Sean Haywood



The Board are ably supported by our clerk, Emma Burley.

You can find out more about the Governing Board, how we fulfil our responsibilities, and the main things that we focussed on last year, in our letter issued to parents, families and carers in July, a copy of which can be found on the school website, in the 'letters and forms' section.



Yours sincerely,

David Pearce

Chair of the Governing Board, the Vale Federation