



A warm welcome as the new school year gets underway

It's been a busy few weeks with the start of the school year bringing with it new aspirations and opportunities. Between extremes of autumn weather, we have seen both children and teachers settle into their new classes with enthusiasm, enjoying events such as Meet the Teacher, and getting involved in new activities like our Young Voices choir and football teams. We are very proud of the way the children have handled the return to school from the long summer break, and are grateful to parents for their support, particularly when it comes to attendance and arriving on time.

We'd like to say thank you to everyone who filled in a parent survey last term. We also surveyed staff and children, gathering data from across the school community. We have reviewed the information as a Board, which was generally very positive, and will use it to inform our discussions going forward. We did note that parents were unsure of what the Governing Board does, so we will continue to communicate our work to you over the coming months. But do feel free to ask! Some of us are parents of children at the school, so you can always chat with us on the school run, or you can contact us through the school office or at governors@overstone-wing.org.

All about the Governing Board

Overstone's Governing Board is a dedicated group of volunteers who give their time to help in the running of the school. We held our first Board meeting of the new year at the end of September. Following this, we are pleased to confirm the roles and subject areas within the Governing Board:

Governor	Roles and subject areas
Steve Fuller	Co-chair; Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS); Performance Management
Stephen Gates	Co-chair; Healthy and Safety
Helen Walsh	Vice Chair; Wellbeing; Communications
Natalie Bird	Curriculum; PHSE and RSE
Kirsty Eales	Headteacher
Claire Hooley	Safeguarding; Curriculum
Cathryn Siddall	SEND and Pupil Premium; Personal Development
Ellie Thompson	Equalities; Sports Premium; Performance Management
Dave Varey	Performance Management
Mark Watson	Data Protection

The Governing Board is responsible for overseeing the school's vision and strategic direction, along with its financial performance. The headteacher has responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school. We work with the school's leadership team to set the priorities for the school in both the

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medium and short term. This year, our main areas of focus are attainment, curriculum, and our school's environmental footprint. [Find out more about our strategic priorities here.](#)

We are looking for people to join us

Anyone can become a governor! You don't need to be in education or have specific qualifications – just an interest in the school's success. Governing bodies need a whole range of skills and diversity to be effective, from business to human resources, community knowledge to teaching. What you learn as a governor can also have huge personal and professional benefits by developing transferrable skills and knowledge. [Find out more about the Governing Board here.](#)

We hope you have a great half term break and look forward to what the school year has to offer us all!

Kind regards,
The Governors