



Portesham C of E VA Primary School

'Putting children first'

www.Portesham.dorset.sch.uk

Governors' Newsletter

The governors would like to thank the staff, parents and above all the children for the excellent start to the new academic year. Everyone connected to the school is totally committed to providing the best education for the children. Our school is a vibrant, caring and compassionate community where every child does matter.

Key to successful outcomes for our children is the partnership between you, the parents and the school. School must be a place where children are safe, happy and have an environment that is conducive to learning. Portesham must also be a school where the parents trust us implicitly to add to the values you espouse at home.

Much attention has been focused on the levels of anxiety prevalent in today's society. There are a number of reasons but school is a place where children can develop their emotional intelligence, learn key communication skills, team work and resilience which are crucial as they negotiate their way to adulthood. These skills are essential: children begin to trust themselves to become more independent learners, to experiment, to think outside the box and challenge themselves if they are not fearful. Portesham is a school that works hard to provide the right environment for children to flourish, where they are happy, where they can laugh.

The staff at our school are dedicated to providing quality teaching and support. Every member of the team is important. As governors, we are responsible, among other things, to ensure that standards and pupil outcomes are good. We have different backgrounds and skills, but collectively, we work well as a team to support the Headteacher, Vicky Prior and the staff to realise the school's aims. We regularly visit the school, talk to the children and look at work and examine school data. Not only is it a pleasure, but it enables us to talk and listen to staff about the progress the children are making. We meet regularly as a governing board and have several committees that have responsibility for certain areas, e.g. Curriculum and Standards. We meet not for social reasons but to get down to the business of supporting and, where necessary, challenging the leadership of the school in the spirit of mutual respect. Respect is one of the cornerstones of our community and is the thread that runs through our governor, staff, pupil and parent relationships.

We often meet former pupils who are now adults. They all acknowledge in adulthood, the solid foundations that Portesham C of E Primary School provided both in terms of the transition to secondary, and beyond.

Should you wish to communicate with any of the governors, we can be contacted on our school email addresses, details of which are on the website: Our School Governors. You will also be able to read a mini biography of the governors on this page.

Thank you

The Governing Board

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