



**Chestnut Lane School**  
105 Chestnut Lane  
Amersham HP6 6EF  
**Telephone:** 01494 727415  
**Email:** [office@chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:office@chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk)  
**Website:** <http://chestnutlane.bucks.sch.uk>  
**Headteacher:** Mrs Gemma Rehal  
BA (Hons) Primary Ed, PGCE SENco

## **Governors' Report to Parents November 2019**

Many of you will be unaware of the role of Chestnut Lane Governing Body so I am glad to give a brief outline.

We meet formally once in each term and informally whenever necessary. The Body is supported by four sub-committees covering Finance, Teaching & Learning, Pay & Personnel and Health & Safety & Premises.

The duties of the Finance Committee include:

1. Approval and regular monitoring of the school budget.
2. Approval of expenditure and contracts up to £5000.
3. Completion of the annual financial audit.
4. Oversight of the School Fund ensuring monies are appropriately spent. For example, the fund provides in-school workshops and author visits.

The Teaching and Learning Committee monitors pupil progress via data reports throughout the year for all year groups, focusing on Early Years, Phonics and Key Stage 1 outcomes. Anonymised data is reviewed so that we are aware of the progress of the children. Trends are identified and actions taken are reviewed and discussed so that Governors are kept informed and Senior Leadership Team held to account for pupil outcomes.

Challenge Partners, an independent, practitioner-led national organisation provided a Quality Assurance Review in March 2019. Outcomes for pupils, Quality of teaching, learning and assessment and School improvement strategies were all estimated as Outstanding and some helpful areas to be developed were identified. These will be reviewed during their visit in 2020.

The chair of the Pay and Personnel Committee sits on the interviewing panel for new teachers. Governors receive training to ensure that the recruitment process is run correctly and, by working alongside the Headteacher, we continually strive to recruit and retain the best staff we can thus enabling the school to deliver an excellent standard of teaching and nurturing for all pupils.


The Health & Safety & Premises Committee ensure the environment of the school are in the best possible condition by termly inspections. The checklist for this is constantly updated as necessary. Security of the children and staff is paramount. In the last year, security gates were installed along with improved fencing. The classroom roofs have been renewed. New playground markings, the football area and the reinstatement of

the scooter lane have improved the environment. A defibrillator is now installed in the main building. The committee also supported the Headteacher in achieving Grade A: Excellent in a Health and Safety Management Audit conducted by the local authority in July 2019.

Governors spend a lot of time ensuring the school has up to date policies and plans to cover the many aspects of life at the school. This includes many topics from a whistleblowing policy to our critical incident and emergency plan. Compliance with all legal requirements is ensured including with GDPR regulations.

We have supported Mrs Rehal, your new Headteacher, through her successful first year in post and this will continue. It is a privilege to be involved at the heart of Chestnut Lane School. Governors strive to ensure the highest level of education, welfare and safeguarding for all our pupils.

Kind regards.



Steve West  
Chair of Governors.

