



# Governor newsletter

**Dane Royd Junior and Infant School**



## Our first newsletter

Welcome to the first Newsletter from the Governors of Dane Royd.

Hello, my name is Ian Patterson and I am the Chair of Governors at Dane Royd. Welcome to our first newsletter, where we intend to update you on our work, and explain our involvement in your child's school. I am very lucky to work with some fantastic people on our Governing Body, who have a wide range of experience and backgrounds. In future editions of this newsletter I'll invite the other Governors to share a little bit about their roles, and show how we impact on the development of the school.

Ian Patterson  
CTA ATT FCCA ACA  
Chair of Governors

## My role - Ian Patterson

### A very brief overview of my role

As Chair of the Governing Body, it is my responsibility to coordinate the full Governing Body meetings, which we hold throughout the year, with at least one meeting every term. All of the Governors, the Headteacher and associate members attend these meetings.

I represent the Governing Body at meetings with key stakeholders including: parents, local authority, Police, local groups and the Kettlethorpe Collaborative Partnership.

I am also part of the resources committee, and attend extra meetings that challenge how the school finances are spent. We always review future budgets with the development of the school in mind.

Given my background in accountancy I have a particular interest in Maths and am also the Governor responsible for numeracy. My role involves meeting with the numeracy co-ordinator to consider and evaluate changes made to maths policy.

I strongly believe in our School, and the brilliant work of the; teachers, supporting staff, leadership team and Governors. However, my most important responsibility is focused on improving; quality in school and ultimately the student experience.

### Website

The school website is packed with information about; the school, our Governors and policies.



The website also includes school performance data, which we closely monitor and evaluate. The website is updated regularly, and is well worth a visit if you have not recently looked.



**[www.DaneRoyd.com](http://www.DaneRoyd.com)**

### Any questions?

The Governors are often in school; attending meetings, observing lessons and especially watching assemblies. Please feel free to ask us any questions that you may have, and we will try our best to answer them.

## “Could you be a Parent Governor?”

Would you like to become a Parent Governor?

From time to time opportunities arise to join the Governing Body and in March 2016 we will be holding elections for three Parent Governor positions.



This could be your opportunity to get more involved in the school and share your enthusiasm and skills to help Dane Royd continue to improve. By taking part you will be able to:

- ▶ help shape the school’s strategic direction,
- ▶ support the leadership team and school and
- ▶ ensure the school remains on track towards becoming an outstanding school.

Don’t worry about having previous experience, all training and support will be provided to help you understand everything you need to know, including; what is the Governing Body’s responsibilities, how the school is financed, as well as curriculum and exam changes.

Before I had children, I did think that teaching was an easy career choice, with short working hours, a repetitive teaching curriculum, and plenty of holidays. How wrong could I be...

It is only by being involved as a Governor that I now truly appreciate the long hours everyone works, the holidays that many staff regularly give up in order to; make improvements, raise the profile of the school and to investigate new ideas and skills to enrich the learning at Dane Royd. On top of this are the many challenges of; curriculum changes, changes to marking, policy updates, as well as ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our children.

As a parent Governor you will expand your skill set as you learn about the education system. You will also get to know more about the fantastic work that happens on school grounds and the excellent team we have shaping our children. It is also a wonderful opportunity to make a difference and gain personal satisfaction from ‘giving something back’ to the local community.

Please look out for further details and nominations papers coming home with your child.

## SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

At the start of the school year we did set some priority targets, which include;

- Continuing to improve rates of progress across Key Stage 2
- Raising the end of year marks for Maths across school
- Continuing to improve the quality of teaching

Throughout the year , we will monitor progression against each of these targets and feedback in due course.

