



SHERDLEY GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER

July 2019

Review of the year

As we head towards the end of the academic year we wanted to take the opportunity to update you with the key developments since our last newsletter and what a successful year it has been!

Results-wise we can confirm that Sherdley's upward trend has continued with improvements across every subject in Key Stage 2 for the fourth consecutive year and the best Key Stage 1 SATs results in over 6 years! Although the phonics screening results have dipped slightly compared to last year they still remain higher than the national average at a very impressive 85%. This is a direct result of the dedication and hard work of the staff, pupils, parental support and the implementation of key improvement strategies - of which all of the Sherdley community can be proud.

Although we continue to see significant improvements in results there is still work to be done to make our school outstanding and to ensure that our pupils move on from Sherdley having met their full potential. To maintain this momentum there are a number of key strategies in place or due to be implemented over the coming year. Of particular importance are:

- The continued investment into the training of staff to continuously increase the number of outstanding lessons delivered to pupils;
- Utilising links with external bodies. In particular securing the expertise of a National Leader in Education to support and advise to further enhance the results of strategies in place;
- Further development of the curriculum to enhance the learning opportunities for pupils.

Other Key Developments

- Raising aspirations is one of our core values at Sherdley so we are delighted to have secured a link with St Helens Chamber of Commerce to deliver a series of courses to pupils in years 4, 5 & 6. As part of the 'Learning to work' programme the children will be involved in numerous activities throughout the year that will introduce them to the world of work, engage them in exciting enterprise opportunities and lead to an appreciation of the vast options that are available to them once they leave school - with an ultimate aim of raising aspirations.
- Congratulations to 3 of our teachers who have successfully qualified as external moderators. This fundamental strategy ensures not only that we have the greatest level of understanding of what should be expected of our pupils at all key stages but also that we have the enhanced insight into how we compare with similar schools and identification of the best ways in which we can improve. The extra effort and work that has gone into achieving this is very much appreciated and will be key in driving future improvements.
- As a direct result of the tireless campaigning of governors, parents and carers we have secured funding for the school crossing for the next two academic years via the 'Community Improvement Fund'.
- Sherdley is officially an 'oversubscribed' school! For many reasons and due to numerous positive improvements in recent years Sherdley is becoming an increasingly popular choice of school in the local area.
- Sherdley have achieved the Silver Rights Respecting School award which recognises that all parties ensure fairness, equality and the promotion of the rights of children in society. Well done everyone!



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Sherdley Governors

We have had a few changes in governance throughout the year including the appointment of two new governors - Leanne Howard and Sandra Edwards. They both bring with them a wealth of skills and experience to our governing body but of particular significance is their specialist knowledge of Safeguarding and SEND respectively. They have already proven themselves as valuable members of the team and have taken on the Safeguarding and SEND link roles within school ensuring compliance and to help steer the strategic direction in these key areas. During the year we also saw the retirement of long-standing governors Cllr Jimmy Jackson and Cllr Anthony Johnson. We would like to thank them for their commitment to Sherdley over the years.

If you would like to put a face to a name and find out more about each of our governors then please check out the governors' section on the school website. Sherdley's governing body are:

Kirsty Farrelly (Chair of Governors)	Cathey Briars (Vice Chair of Governors)	Karen Tilley (Chair of Curriculum Committee)	Hazel Morley (Chair of Resources Committee)
Rebecca Bridge	Simon Dawson	Allison McQueen	Kevin Harker
Carol Brown	Leanne Howard	Sandra Edwards	Tony McCoy

As governors we have been successful in increasing parental and pupil engagement and look forward to building on this next year. In addition we have been successful in making links with other governing bodies in the area and now benefit from sharing best practice throughout the borough.

Parental engagement

As a governing body we recognise the importance of engaging with parents and providing an opportunity for parents to shape their children's education. Therefore, we would like to continue to encourage these channels of two-way communication.

Parents' evenings

We have gathered and acted upon very useful feedback we have gathered during our chats with parents and carers at parents' evenings so we plan to continue to be present at these again next year.

Parent questionnaire

We review and act upon the results of the annual parental questionnaire so please do complete this to give us a true indication of where you believe the school's strengths and weaknesses lie.

If you would like to contact us via email the address is: Sherdley.Governors@sthelens.org.uk

Interested in becoming a parent governor?

Whilst there are currently no parent governor vacancies they do arise periodically. If you think you may be interested in becoming more directly involved in governance and would like to know more about the role and the election process then please get in touch. No prior experience is necessary as there is plenty of training available and Sherdley's governing body provides an excellent support network for all new governors.

We look forward to another happy and successful year at Sherdley!

The Sherdley Governors