



Welcome to the first issue of the governor update. In this bulletin we aim to keep you informed of the role of governors and of the work we are undertaking on behalf of the college.

What is Governance?

Governance is about ensuring full compliance to all statutory and local authority directives to ensure the well-being of the pupils and staff, and to promote and maintain high quality teaching and learning throughout the college. To ensure we do this as effectively as possible, the full governing body is made up of a number of different types of volunteers; parent, community, local authority approved, and staff governors who serve on at least one of the following committees:

- Finance and Resources
- Human Resources and Pay
- Curriculum, Standards and improvements
- Pupil Wellbeing
- Community

In addition we have link governors who work with a specific house in the college, an SEN governor, a Health and Safety Liaison governor and a Gifted and Talented Liaison Governor.

We are very fortunate to receive additional support from a number of sources, including the volunteers who come and help at the college and the SPA team, who work very hard to raise additional funds for equipment, etc.

You can find out more about the governors and see the minutes of various meetings held by looking at the Governor section of the college website.

The ePortal facility is working well and is being taken up by many parents as a useful way of checking the progress of their own child.



User ids and passwords have been given out at parents' evenings or posted home.

Eportal is a great way to see how your child is progressing. It gives a daily timetable, current results, end of year targets, attendance and events and as such is a great way of staying in touch with your child's college life and flagging any issues you may need to discuss further with a particular teacher.

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Sharon Mordecai, who has recently just joined us as a Local Authority governor. Sharon's knowledge of teaching and education strategy will make her a great asset to the team.

Feedback from the SIP (School Improvement Partner)

We have received feedback that the SIP agrees with the college's judgement that it is "good with some outstanding features". To support this, it was cited that the examination results (attainment) have been excellent, and that the contextual value add (CVA) has improved significantly, since 2007.

The feedback also noted that the college continues to place emphasis on monitoring performance in the classroom. The evidence provided suggested that 80% of lessons observed were good or better.

The SIP noted the actions that are needed to continue to drive the college forward and as governors we will keep monitoring standards to ensure they are maintained and improved further wherever possible.

A huge thank you goes to all the staff who have worked so hard to achieve this.

Swanmore Parent Association

We are extremely grateful for the efforts of the SPA (Swanmore Parents Association) and the work of volunteer parents to support College activities and raise additional funds.

A very successful example of this was the quiz night run in April, which was a huge success and



our thanks go to the team who organised it. That particular event was wonderfully well attended and a good time was had by all. The support for such fundraising events, whether it be helping to organise something, through to buying tickets and coming along, really does make a difference and we appreciate everyone who supports the SPA activities. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Current Projects

The governors are involved in a number of projects as well as the day-to-day governance issues.

We are currently implementing a Travel Plan in conjunction with the Council, we are working with the College on the Uniform Consultation. Many thanks to all pupils and parents who took the time to complete the online questionnaire regarding uniform. A progress update will follow in our next Governor Bulletin.



How to contact us

The governors are always happy to hear from parents and can meet parents to discuss issues about their specific child/children on a one-to-one basis, should the need arise.

Whilst the first place to take a query about the college should always be an appropriate member of staff, we are happy to clarify any issues regarding policy or governance for parents and the wider community.

We can be contacted by email at the following address:

governors@swanmore-sec.hants.sch.uk

or by letter addressed to the college, which will be passed to us.

