

Points of strength

Wonderful nursery school; fantastic staff; vision for the future; committed Governors; feels like the Governing Body really wants to do everything it can to make this place a success

Surviving the year is quite an achievement

We are prepared to confront and deal with challenging issues

Supported the senior leadership team through difficult and changing circumstances

Discussing finance under very difficult circumstances

Being flexible during a difficult financial situation

Been supportive in ensuring that The Fields has been brought to the attention of the local authority, ensuring that our issues are not forgotten

Meetings run well by Chair

Good communication between Head, Chair and Governors

Prompt attendance at meetings; all contribute; all have children's education and welfare as paramount

Regular meetings; majority of Governors attending all meetings

Governors taking interest in what is happening

Interested and supportive in changes for staff and children

Understanding the role of the nursery school within the community

Positive relationships between members of the Governing Body and also with staff

Supportive environment

Supporting staff

We have a high opinion of the quality of the school and staff

All staff are great and good at their jobs: hard-working, supportive, willing, open

Communication with parents/users of Centre

Listening to parents/users of Centre and actioning – not just lip service

Minute-taking of Governor meeting provides transparency – also available on website

Points for improvement

Taking decisive action and following through

Concrete solutions to support the SLT

Something we need to think about for the future: planning for a hopefully more stable future. This year seems to have been about discussing crises

So much happens between meetings that it is hard to input to some key decisions

Internal communication amongst Governors – has sometimes been hard to keep up with developments between meetings, with the result that I've felt like I am playing catch-up at the start of each meeting, without enough time to reflect and make good decisions

We cannot afford to provide a diamond service, need to cut back on things that do not change the welfare/education of children. Doing more with less is very difficult, but could think about why something is recorded etc. also the number of policies

Governors are valuable assets and have a number of key skills. Maybe be more clear in how those skills can contribute towards the overall running of the Centre

All Governor attending training and briefings rather than a small number feeling responsible

Governor visits didn't all take place

Not sure sub-committees are very effective

Try to fit all we want to do into the time set

Committees – if meeting can't be made, Chair must set another date ASAP – hopefully we won't fall behind

Communication with parents could be improved (e.g. summer term date changes)

Parents (and perhaps staff) have felt we haven't done a good job at keeping them updated

We don't communicate as effectively as we could with the school staff and although we discuss welfare we probably need to do so more consistently

Concerns about overworked staff

Challenge of the staff with regards to how the staff are working operationally

It would be great if all of the papers were collated into a single document