

Welcome to the Local Advisory Committee's (LAC) first newsletter and a very special welcome to those families who have recently joined Floreat Wandsworth for the first time. The governors are committed to improving their communication to parents and we hope that you will find these updates useful in keeping you up-to-date with the LAC's recent work and some of the issues currently facing our school. This edition will focus on introducing you to how governance works at Floreat Wandsworth and will give you some insight into our local governors.

Our Local Advisory Committee

The LAC from September 2018 comprises:



Mills Brough (Chair)	FEAT appointed
Mike Crowhurst	FEAT appointed
Mr Custance	Headteacher
Annabel Dunlop (Associate Governor)	FEAT appointed
Harriet Johnson	Parent elected
Cllr. Ian Lewer	Local Authority, FEAT appointed
Tom Salvesen (Vice Chair)	FEAT appointed
Chris Stirling	Parent elected

We thank Laura Farris, who stepped down after our September meeting, for all of her contributions to the LAC. She has been a governor since March 2016 and we are delighted that she has joined the Floreat Education Academies Trust as a Trustee.

Governance Structure

Floreat Wandsworth Primary School is one of the schools belonging to the Floreat Education Academies Trust (FEAT). In a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), the Trust remains ultimately responsible for standards and finance. However, it would be impossible for trustees to oversee everything in all schools, so key supporting roles are delegated to local advisory committees (LACs), which work to support the Trust in their work. From this year, the Chairs of the Floreat Wandsworth and Floreat Montague Park LACs have now become Trustees on the Floreat Board. This decision has been made as part of the commitment to ensure good communication across our schools, LACs and Board. The LAC will be working on developing ways of working with Floreat Montague Park more, which will greatly benefit both schools.

The Purpose of the Floreat Wandsworth LAC

The purpose and remit of the LAC is to:

- a. Support and promote the school within its community;
- b. Champion and contribute to the work of FEAT in developing and implementing its vision for education;
- c. Act as a critical friend to the Headteacher through providing support and challenge in order to ensure that Floreat schools meet the needs of the pupils and families they serve, and that these pupils and families flourish;
- d. Develop an understanding of the school's progress, performance and outcomes in order to assure FEAT Trustees and the wider public that it is providing high quality, effective and efficient education;
- e. Provide information, feedback, advice and recommendations to the Headteacher, the Executive team and FEAT Trustees in relation to the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The Trustees and the LAC, together with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, are accountable for the leadership and management of the school. Governors act as 'critical friends' to the school and make strategic decisions as a group, whilst the operational management of the schools remains the responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team.

Who are we?

Mills Brough, Chair of the Floreat Wandsworth LAC

I have been a member of the Floreat Wandsworth LAC since the school opened in 2015. I was elected as a Parent Governor, and became Vice Chair in 2016, before taking on the position of Chair in July of this year. I have also moved from being a parent governor to a governor appointed by FEAT. My husband and I have lived in Earlsfield for the last ten years and we have two sons who both attend Floreat Wandsworth. Prior to having children, I worked as a primary school teacher for over ten years and my last role was as a Deputy Head. As well as bringing up my family, I am committed to ensuring there is strong governance at Floreat Wandsworth.

Tom Salvesen, Vice Chair of the Floreat Wandsworth LAC

I have recently been elected on to the LAC as vice-chair after getting involved in the funding and marketing strategy for Floreat. I have two daughters at the school, 1 in reception and 1 in year 2 and, having lived in the area for nearly 15 years, my wife and I are passionate about supporting our vibrant community and helping to enhance our thriving school environment. I feel exceptionally fortunate to be part of such a dynamic parental body and look forward to emulating the fantastic work achieved by all the staff at Floreat. I have spent my whole career working in finance and look forward to deploying these skills and others in my role as governor.

Mike Crowhurst

I've been a governor at Floreat Wandsworth since before the school opened. At that time, I was working at New Schools Network, a charity which supports the creation of new free schools. Having helped lots of free schools to start around the country, I jumped at the opportunity to get involved in one here in my local community. I currently work as a policy adviser to the Prime Minister on education – so being a governor at Floreat gives me a great opportunity to see the impact of Government policy at first hand. I also used to be a secondary school teacher and really enjoy the buzz of being back in a school whenever I come in for meetings or visits.

Annabel Dunlop, Associate Governor

I was elected as a Parent Governor member of the Floreat Wandsworth LAC following the school opening in 2015. I have found being part of the LAC to be fascinating and deeply rewarding. My role here is coming to an end due to our family being posted abroad in Spring 2019. I was a solicitor for ten years before having children and have been delighted to be able to deploy those skills to contribute to Floreat Wandsworth's governance and flourishing. My son is one of the school's first cohort (now in Year 3) and my twin daughters are now starting Reception, having had a successful year in Floreat's nursery. I remain committed to helping our wonderful school be the best it can be.

Harriet Johnson, Parent Governor

Having been involved with Floreat since 2016 when my daughter started in Reception, and now having two children at the school, makes me feel very invested in its future. I love the vision, teaching and character learning of Floreat and am proud to be more involved through a parent governor role by helping develop its standing in the community, where we have lived for eight years, and to help it reach its goal of becoming an outstanding school. My career in marketing and sponsorship in the corporate world involved dealing with many senior stakeholders, governing bodies and the general public. Much of my role focused on grassroots sport, encouraging children to take part and helping communities to come together.

Ian Lewer

I have lived in Putney for 7 years and was elected to Wandsworth Council in May 2014. During my time as a Councillor, I have sat on a variety of committees including Education & Children's Services for 3 years. Currently I Chair the Adult Care & Health Committee. I am also a Trustee of One Trust in Tooting and A2i Dyslexia in Battersea. I have worked in employee benefits insurance for 8 years and currently work for Legal & General as a sales and relationship manager.

Chris Stirling, Parent Governor

I have recently been elected on to the Floreat LAC as a parent governor. I have a son in Year 2. I am committed to seeing the school continue to succeed and improve, for the benefit of not only my own son, but also for the community as a whole. Education is priceless and one of the most important investments a parent can make in their children's future. I work as a barrister and have also served on my chambers' management committee for over 10 years. In that time, I have dealt with staff restructuring, merger negotiations, complaints policy and investigation, and staff appraisals. I hope to bring the skills I have to help the school develop and flourish.

What do we do?

Governors work co-operatively with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team in the writing and monitoring the School Improvement Plan (SIP). The SIP is based on priorities identified from school data, school self-evaluation and Ofsted priorities, and also takes into account feedback from the pupils, staff and families. We will be continuing to increase the opportunities for you to provide us with your feedback and then we aim to report back on how this is considered when making strategic decisions about the future provision at Floreat Wandsworth. When we ask for feedback through surveys or more informal methods, it is important to remember that everyone's opinions matter and therefore to have a voice you need to take up the opportunities to give us your views.



The governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SIP and to focus on specific areas. These visits are considered a valuable opportunity for governors to be able to work closely with staff members across the school. School based visits are invaluable in helping us to understand how the school supports children's learning. Link governors follow a cycle which sets out the statutory monitoring activities which they will be undertaking, and guidance in terms of the roles and responsibilities of the governor during their visits is provided. We look forward to sharing the impact of some of these visits in our future newsletters.

Floreat has Mr Khalif, an experienced Finance Manager, who is fully committed to ensuring that the school money is spent effectively for all pupils. Governors also have expertise in finance and the FEAT Board has a dedicated Finance and Audit committee. The governors are working closely with the Headteacher and Finance Manager on a monthly basis to monitor the school budget, ensuring it is managed efficiently and that improvements are effective and continuous. We look forward to providing you with updates on a regular basis around our financial position, now that FEAT has been shown to be financially viable moving forward. As you will be aware, funding for any school is currently tight and the governors' aim is to ensure that the funding is used appropriately and that we are continually looking ahead and ensuring best value for money. We are also committed to maximising the assets, such as lettings, across the schools and thinking creatively about ways to generate income to continually enrich our educational provision.

Feedback from the Poster Activity we set at Parents' Evenings in the summer term

We asked you two questions:

1. Can you tell us one thing that you think is good about our school?
2. Can you tell us one thing that you think needs to be improved or you would like to see introduced at our school?

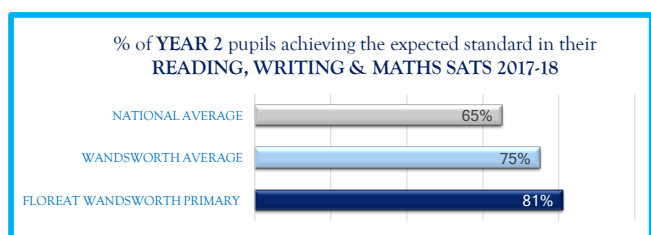
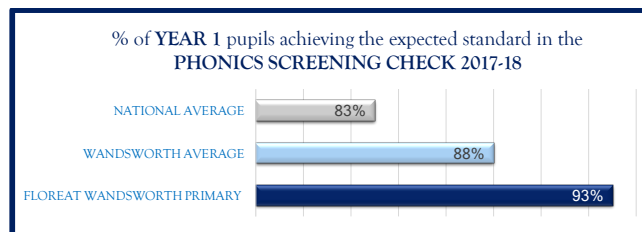
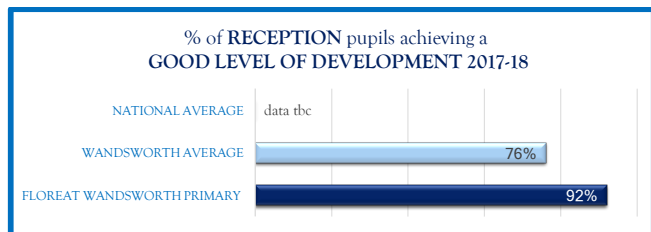
The top responses to what is good focused on the driven, passionate and caring staff and the welcoming, happy and positive atmosphere throughout the school. For governors, this is so clearly evident whenever we visit, and we're glad it is evident to parents as well. We have a strong and committed staff team who are constantly working to improve the provision and extend the opportunities for all pupils. We thank them for all their hard work through Ofsted and for their continual drive to raise standards. There is always such a feeling of energy, confidence and engagement when visiting the school, and that has also been commented on regularly by external visitors to the school too.

Character Education also came out as a top response and a genuine sense that everyone truly values the programme that Floreat offers. This will continue to be integral to the provision at Floreat Wandsworth.

Areas for focus have centred on sport, music, science, drama and art provision. This has been and will continue to remain a priority in terms of increasing opportunities and improving the provision in response to our own Strategic aims, feedback from Ofsted and feedback from parents. AM Sports are providing first

rate PE provision, with swimming being introduced in Year Three this year too. You will have seen that by bringing in the Wandsworth Music Service this year the music provision has been clearly prioritised. Science, drama and art provision are the current focus points in terms of within curriculum time and through our extra-curricular provision. This will be clearly targeted in the SIP.

Celebrating the Strong Results at Floreat Wandsworth



As you can see, the results for Reception, Year One and Year Two should be clearly celebrated, and show how the pupils are outperforming pupils nationally and that our results are well above the Wandsworth average too.

Moving forward, the focus will be on continuing to improve the provision in these areas, while also looking to develop a stronger wider curriculum.

The work of the LAC this term

Following our first meeting of the academic year, the LAC are committed to continual improvement and some of the areas we will be focusing on this term are:

- Data analysis for the progress and attainment of all pupils in the school
- Continued strategic oversight of the finances
- Secondary Transfer, and ensuring parents have the information they need
- Reviewing the school's self-evaluation and agreeing the School Improvement Plan

Governors will also visit the school to look at the provision across a range of year groups to ensure there is clear progression and consistency within and between year groups. We look forward to sharing the impact of our work with you shortly.

To help us as we look at Secondary school transfer, we would be most grateful if you could complete a short questionnaire for us. The link to the online survey is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/8GWPVRF>. Our next LAC Secondary School Transfer strategy meeting is planned to take place during the week of 15th October, so it would be most helpful if you could complete the questionnaire before the end of Sunday 14th October. Paper copies can be collected from and returned to the School Office if needed.

The governors can always be contacted at governors@wandsworth.floreat.org.uk or through the School Office, but for operational feedback please do go through the school channels.

We wish you all a fantastic year at Floreat Wandsworth and we look forward to meeting you at school events and to watching your children flourishing when we visit the school.