



Dear Parents/Carers

The Shrubbery School has a long history of providing high quality teaching and learning and with its strong ethos and values, the school supports children to work towards and realise their full academic potential. The Shrubbery nurtures key social and creative skills especially in the early years and helps build academic and social confidence and self-esteem. A point so readily made in the recent Ofsted report.

To be elected as the Chair of Governors of The Shrubbery School is an immense privilege and I am proud to undertake this role. As Chair, I intend to bring and share my extensive experience of school leadership, school improvement and pedagogy to the role.

I first began teaching nineteen years ago and have taught across a range of schools and ages, both in Birmingham and further afield in Germany with British Forces. I have been involved in school Leadership for the last seven years and as the Head Teacher of a Primary School for the last four years. As Head Teacher I led a mainstream state school that supported the country's largest resource base for children with Autistic and Speech and Language conditions and all within a challenging area of the city.

I now work in school improvement for a Multi Academy Trust, supporting schools to meet and surpass current education expectation and challenge. I support and deliver training to Newly Qualified Teachers (NQT's) in both the state and independent sectors and consult for a large international education company.

As Chair, I look forward to working with my fellow Governors, to support the work of Mrs Atkins and her fantastically dedicated team to deliver high quality educational outcomes and care for all children at The Shrubbery.

Our role is to support the strategic vision of the school and to make sure that school development objectives are both achieved and that planning for the future is both aspirational and realistic.

As Governors we are here to support and encourage the Head Teacher, Senior Leadership team and teaching staff and act as 'critical friends' in order to maintain the schools commitment to achieving the highest standards of education.

As Governors our strategic focus will be upon how the school works to achieve positive educational outcomes through; effective leadership and management, high quality teaching, learning and assessment, pupil personal development, behaviour and welfare and their academic achievement. All the Governors are fully committed to ensure that everyone appointed as a Governor is passionate about ensuring that high quality outcomes are achieved for all children, whatever their need.

The school, like all other schools in the country, will face a great many challenges and will continue to do so in the future. Therefore, I ask all parents to fully support the school and support Mrs Atkins and her staff to strengthen and develop the school so that it may continue long into the future.

If you should wish to find out more about the role of the Governors at the school, you can do this via the Governors section of the school website which will be populated as we proceed forward.

If you wish to share your child's success or should have any concerns, please continue to speak to Mrs Atkins and follow the schools current reporting and complaints procedures.

I look forward to working with all at the school in the future and may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Dickon Taylor. BSc (Hons) PGCE, LP, NPQH