



Hello Amotherby School Community!

Welcome to the very first edition of our **Governing Board Newsletter**. We're excited to share updates each term about all the work our board is doing alongside the school senior leadership team to make our school an even better place for our pupils.

What does the Governing Board do?

Our governing board oversees the school's priorities, monitors finances, and ensures the school is performing at its best. We hold the headteacher accountable, ensure we meet all legal and safeguarding requirements, and support continuous improvement in our school.

Meet Our Governors

We have a diverse group of governors, each bringing something special to the table:

- **Headteacher:** A key member of the board.
- **Parent Governors:** Elected by you, the parents and carers.
- **Staff Governors:** Elected by our school staff.
- **Local Authority Governors:** Appointed by the local council.
- **Co-opted Governors:** Chosen for their unique skills by the governing board.

At Amotherby, we have 9 dedicated governors, each with a specific responsibility. We meet six times a year for board meetings, and in between, regularly visit the school to provide support and monitor performance. **You can see details of our board members and their lead responsibility at the end of this newsletter. More information, including personal bio's are on the [school website](#).**

Welcome Aboard!

A warm welcome to **James Owen** and **Jonathan Trowsdale**, who joined us at the start of this school year. James is our parent governor and curriculum lead, bringing his experience as a school parent and as Territory Sales Manager for the UK subsidiary of an international company. Jonathan joins us from North Yorkshire Council and is picking up a key role as board safeguarding and attendance lead.

Board Talking Points

Agreeing our School Development Plan (SDP)

The SDP is the school's roadmap, designed to boost overall standards and performance. It highlights key priorities, the steps to raise educational standards, the resources allocated, and the main targets the school aims to achieve.

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The SDP, which we agreed in the Autumn term, covers crucial areas including:

- Quality of Education: Ensuring quality teaching and learning experiences.
- Behaviour and Attitudes: Fostering a positive and respectful school environment.
- Personal Development: Supporting the growth and well-being of every pupil.
- Leadership and Management: Strengthening our leadership to guide the school effectively.
- Early Years: Ensuring high quality provision for children in reception

We regularly monitor the school against the SDP to ensure continuous improvement and to make sure Amotherby is the best it can be. Keep an eye out for a summary of the SDP which will be added to the school website soon.

Establishing Wraparound Care Provision

This school year, one of our top priorities has been to support the establishment of wraparound care, to help parents and carers manage their work and other responsibilities by providing fun and engaging activities for our children before and after the school day. We're thrilled that the school secured additional grant funding from the local authority to transform a little-used space into Treetops, a fantastic and welcoming area which has been well received by those who've used it so far. As we move forward, the board will continue to monitor its operation to ensure it meets the needs of our community.

We hope you and your children enjoy this new addition to our school!

Attendance Matters

Regular school attendance is crucial for academic success, social development, and future opportunities. This is why it's a national priority for schools and why our board prioritises and promotes attendance, ensuring we comply with legal requirements and support school leaders in maximising attendance at Amotherby.

We regularly review attendance data, challenge trends, and focus on improving attendance for all pupils. Attendance is a hot topic at every governing board meeting. Special mention to **Jonathan Trowsdale**, our lead attendance governor, who meets each term with the headteacher to examine attendance data and ensure the school is doing all it can to promote and encourage excellent attendance.

Fundraising Fun

Finally, a huge thanks to our amazing Parent Teacher Association (PTA) who put in many hours to organise fun events for our school community, and, with your support, raise significant funds which make a massive difference to our children's experiences in school.

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Throughout the last school year, they raised over £8000, and in just the two months since Christmas, the PTA has already raised an impressive £630. There are many more exciting fundraising events to come this year: the next is our first family bingo night, on 26th March.... more details to follow soon and we hope to see many of you there!

If you want to hear more about the PTA's work, or want to get involved, contact them at anotherbypta@gmail.com. You can also follow them on Facebook and Instagram (Amotherby School PTA).

We hope you enjoyed this newsletter. Keep an eye out for more news and updates in our next edition. 😊

Amotherby Community Primary School Governing Board

The Governing Board

Stewart Morris, Parent, Chair, Health & Safety Lead

Sophie Jillings, Co-opted, Vice Chair, SEND Lead

Lucy Brazier, Headteacher

Keiran Owen, Co-opted, Finance & Maths Lead

Vanessa Baxter, Local Authority, English Lead

Kelly Richmond, Staff governor

Paul Frith, Co-opted, School Improvement Lead

Jonathan Trowsdale, Co-opted, Safeguarding, Attendance & PSHE Lead

James Owen, Parent, Curriculum Lead