



External Review of Governance (ERG) of Newsome High School

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the Ofsted inspection in November, an External Review of Governance was recommended by the inspection team. This review took place by Ruth Agnew, a former LA governor services manager and an experienced governor trainer and consultant. She is the chair of the local governing body of a primary academy and governor in a maintained secondary and a maintained special school. She was designated a National Leader of Governance (NLG) in April 2012 and supported the Ofsted / National College pilot of external reviews of Governance during the autumn and spring terms 2012-13 and has undertaken a substantial number of External Reviews of Governance since that time in a wide range of settings. She is also an experienced Governor Assessor.

The review evidences both the developments made, the capacity for sustained improvement of the school and highlights the work undertaken over the last 12 months. The fact that we had already arranged this review before the inspection shows our commitment and transparency in ensuring our ongoing work is externally quality assured.

The review concluded:

- This is an impressive, hardworking and committed governing body. It has recently been through a turbulent period including the election/appointment of a number of new governors and a new chair and vice chair.
- The new leadership has introduced a number of changes to practice over a short period of time and these changes are still embedding. However some of the practices already in place are excellent and where there are further areas for improvement, the governing body is already aware and working to address these.

The full report can be found on the following link:

<https://newsomehigh.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Review-of-Governance-Report-Newsome-High-School-1.pdf>

We have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback, well-wishes and support received from all stakeholders. It has been heartwarming to read your feedback on the many highlighted positives in the Ofsted report.

Yours sincerely

Mr D Watkin
Headteacher