

Board of Trustees News – August 2015

It was great to see some new faces at last week's Board of Trustees meeting. Visitors are always welcome and, with elections coming up next year, now is a great time to join us to get a better understanding of the role of the Board and how it operates. If you are interested in attending a meeting, please contact either Megan Skiffington (Board Chair) or Kirsten Otter (Board Secretary).

Mathematics continues to be a major focus area for Halcombe School and at last week's meeting the Board reviewed mid-year (June) assessments in Basic Facts and Number Knowledge compared to testing at the start of the year (February). Improvement was noted in both areas as a result of a number of teaching strategies that have been successfully implemented in classrooms.

The Board is also currently reviewing the Trustee Portfolios. Each trustee is responsible for one of five specific roles including Chairperson (Megan Skiffington), Personnel (Tamzin Darragh), Finance (Anne Langtry), Property (Kevin Darling) and Health & Safety (Annie O'Fee). The Trustee Portfolio review will see a new template introduced that will help to clarify trustee duties and assist with self-review.

Finally, the new Health & Safety Act will apply to schools in the same way that it will to any other work place and so Annie O'Fee is currently getting to grips with the proposed legislation in order to ensure that Halcombe School complies, particularly around the use of volunteers.

The next Board meeting is on Monday 7th September 2015 at 7pm in the staffroom.

Kevin Darling for the Halcombe School Board of Trustees