



Governor Newsletter Summer 2026

Welcome to our final newsletter of the school year. Our schools have been on an exciting journey over the past 12 months. The most significant milestone has been the federation of our infant and junior schools, bringing us together under a shared vision and strengthening our partnership. As we continue to grow and develop as a federation, we remain committed to providing the very best education and opportunities for every child.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Since becoming a federation, staff from both schools have been working even more closely together. They have continued to refine and strengthen our curriculum, while creating exciting opportunities for pupils to learn and socialise across both schools through collaborative enrichment days, joint assemblies, reading buddies, playtime support and much more.

Parents, pupils, staff and governors have shared their suggestions on school values, helping us to collectively create our new ethos and values. Pupils also produced some impressive design ideas for our federation logo. It was difficult to choose the winning design but we would like to thank everyone who took part for their creativity, enthusiasm and contribution to this exciting process. It looks great on the new PE uniform!

WHO ARE WE?

Over the previous two newsletters, we've introduced members of our governing body. This time, we would like to introduce our Co-Chair of Governors, Natalie Urry:

Natalie Urry is a Solicitor specialising in family law and child protection. Natalie has extensive experience working with parents, representing children, and acting on behalf of a local authority within her legal practice. In 2022, Natalie joined The University of Law as a Senior Lecturer, where she trains future solicitors. She also holds a Postgraduate Certificate in Education and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Authority.

Natalie is a Bottesford resident, and two of her children attend Bottesford Schools Federation. In her (very limited) spare time, she enjoys trips to the Lake District with her family and Dalmatian dog, Denzel.

MONITORING

During our latest monitoring day, governors continued to review progress against the priorities at both schools. Each priority has been assigned to one or more governors, enabling them to monitor progress throughout the year and provide appropriate support and challenge. Monitoring included:

- Curriculum
- Writing
- Stretch and challenge
- Assessment and metacognition
- Maths)

Governors also carried out a health and safety walk across both school sites, discussed our vision and values, and contributed towards the new federation development plan.

TRAINING

Several governors attended the *Empowering Excellence in Leadership* training delivered by the Local Authority. This covered a range of key areas, including safeguarding, SEND reform, careers education and EYFS.

As we come to the end of another academic year, this newsletter celebrates some of the many highlights from the summer term. It also recognises the dedication and commitment of our staff, pupils, families and governors, whose support and hard work have helped make this such a positive and successful time for our federation. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year. We wish you all a happy, safe and restful summer break.