

Governors Annual Report to Parents

Reviewing Year 2023/ 2024



The Governing Body is made up of a group of people with a range of skills, knowledge and experience who live or work locally and together support our school and the local community.

We have been pleased to welcome two new parents to our Governing Body in the Summer term of 2024 – Patrick Ellis and Sam Carvell .

The three main functions of a school's Governing Body are:

1. Setting the strategic direction for the school
 2. Holding the Headteacher and staff members to account for the educational performance of the school
 3. Overseeing the financial performance of the school
- Setting the strategic direction for the school

The priorities for the school in 2023-2024 were:

- Improving the outcomes in Reading, Writing and Maths for all pupils across Key Stage 1 and 2 so that they are in line with, or above, national expectations.
- To continue to teach behaviour explicitly so that pupils are clear and provide emotion coaching for staff.
- To continue to improve the attendance of pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant funding and those with Special Education Needs.
- Continue to develop the EYFS indoor and outdoor areas.

These priorities are all included in the school development plan. Governors agreed an action plan based on these priorities and identified actions for the academic year in line with the school monitoring programme. Throughout the year Chair and Vice-Chair review progress with the Headteacher.

As Governors we support and challenge the decisions made about your child's education. We monitor school improvement through regular visits into school to meet with school leaders, attend Governors and in school training, review whole school policies and observe pupils' attitude to learning.

Pupil voice and discussions in school with pupils have become more targeted over the year with direct links to the school priorities, for example, in October 2023 Governors spoke to pupils around behaviour in school.

Governors have attended school to support the learning environment in early years and have discussed Curriculum plans, progression and resources with all Curriculum Leads in school. In

addition, our IT link governor provided technical ICT support around our systems in September 2023 to ensure online safety of our children.

Performance data, exclusions and attendance is regularly shared with us as Governors and gives us a good understanding of what is happening in school so we can check progress, consider where improvements are needed and hold our Headteacher to account.

Governors regularly check that safeguarding procedures and policies are in place and being adhered to. The Safeguarding lead Governor checks that all adults, including volunteers, coaches and Governors have an up-to-date enhanced DBS check.

The Health and Safety Committee within the Governing Body have checked that risk assessments are in place and have completed an annual Health and Safety audit. Any recommendations for improvement are then passed to the Finance and Personnel committee.

Overseeing the financial performance of the school Governors ensure each financial year that the budget reflects the priorities of the School Development Plan for the year ahead. The small committee of Governors with finance experience take on this role. The Headteacher regularly updates these Governors on the financial situation of the school and meetings are held throughout the year with the school's finance officer.

“As a member of the Finance and Personnel committee I am able to ask questions about budget allocations and grants such as pupil premium, sports and the covid recovery grants. We are also involved with ensuring that the right staff resources are in place to ensure children are safe, happy and reaching their potential within our allocated budget.”

Melissa Jones Vice Chair

This year our Vice Chair of Governors has continued to develop their understanding around supporting looked after pupils in school and has attended further training with our deputy Headteacher, John Newton. We were proud to achieve an Attachment Research Community (ARC) Award Gold level this academic year.

Governors were present at the open evening in the summer term, for our new Reception starters and were available for any questions and discussions.

As parents and carers you are very much part of our whole school community and we value your feedback. If you have any specific questions or comments for the Governing Body, please do not hesitate to make contact via the school office.