

Alfreton Park Community Special School

Governors Annual Statement – Impact Report 2015/16

‘Members of the Governing Board have played and continue to play a strong role in driving the school forward’ (Ofsted December 2013).

Core Functions of the Governing Board

The Role and Responsibility of the Governors is to ensure that the pupils in our school are making appropriate progress in their learning and that they are kept safe and motivated by exciting staff and their learning environment.

The Governors have visited school on a regular basis as well as attended local, group, federation and national meetings in order to share good practice and improve possibilities.

This statement and report are part of the Governors’ evaluation and publication process.

Governors Core Functions

1. Setting vision, ethos and strategic direction
2. Holding the Headteacher to account
3. Overseeing financial performance

School Improvement Plan

Governors work co-operating with the Headteacher and the SLT in the writing and monitoring of the SIP. The SIP sets aims for the next year. The current SIP is based on school evaluation and Ofsted priorities. The SIP sets out clear aims, the key tasks which will be completed in order to achieve the aims and the success criteria in order to measure outcomes. The SIP is monitored by the Governors termly.

Governor Meeting Attendance

The Governing Board is currently operating with two committees:

- Resource Management Committee (RMC)
- Teaching & Learning Committee (T&L)

Attendance continues to be exemplary. Any absences are explained and accepted by the Board. There are no causes for concern at the level of commitment shown by any member of the Governing Board.

Targets for 2015-16

Priority 1 – To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by strengthening leaderships skills of all stakeholders

Priority 2 – To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by improving the quality of teaching, learning and assessment

Priority 3 – To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by improving personal development, behaviour and welfare.

Priority 4 – To secure the best possible outcomes for pupils by developing adequate premises and resources.

Governor Visits

The Governors visit the school as part of their monitoring of the SIP, viewing the cosmetics of the building at first hand, gaining an understanding of the children's needs.

Named Governors are linked to curriculum aspects and all classes have a named Governor Buddy. Governors are expected to attend formal and informal gatherings.

The impact of these visits includes:

- A thorough understanding of the school and how it performs
- A renewed focus on the strengths and weaknesses of the school
- A much improved dialogue with children/staff/parents and carers
- A sharing of information at Governors' meetings and actions required

Data Analysis

Data is made available to Governors through termly meetings where they are encouraged to question and seek validation of results. They are then able to compare to previous year's results to similar schools and to local and national statistics. Particular attention is given to pupil progress across all ability groups including vulnerable groups and the effective use of pupil premium funding.

Policies

Governors review all relevant policies on a timetabled basis to ensure that all information is current.

Specific attention is paid to ensure that the school complies with the Department of Education's policy list and that of the Local Authority.

Financial Management

The Governing Board have been trained in school financial management and are advised by the School Business Manager. The impact of the Governors role in the school ensures that the budget is managed effectively. A committee has been formed of Governors who have a broad understanding of financial matters. They have proven key in maintaining and updating the buildings.

A number of Governors are training in 'Safer Recruitment'. An experienced Governor sits on all recruitment and selection panels to ensure that high standards are maintained.

Governor Training & Development Plan

Training possibilities and requirements are shared on a termly basis during meetings. The school also buys into the Derby and Derbyshire Governance Partnership who provide a timetable of training workshops.

Training	John Glasby	Carol Wright	Francine Franklin	Ros Stephens	Bill Jowett	Richard Sowter	Matt Clemens	Kevin Dean	Steve Marshall Clarke	Cheryl Smart	Rhys Hancock	Sarah Whitaker (clerk)
Introduction to Governance					X	X						X
Finance			X		X	x			X	X		X
Safer Recruitment	X		X					X		X		
Safeguarding			X					X	X	X		X
Introduction to Chairing	x											X
Governor Support-Strategic Briefings												
MOVE		X								X		
Curriculum Assessment		X										
Ofsted						X			X	X		X
Good Governance			X		X							
Performance Management	X											X
Audit					X							X
Effective Governor Visits												X
Pupil Premium												X
Assessment					X							

Impact Summary

As part of a team, the Governing Board are constantly thriving to improve and develop the school. Ofsted, in their December 2013 Inspection agreed the school to be 'good' in all areas. However, the most recent analysis by the Local Authority agrees with the school that they are 'outstanding'.

Pupil standards have been maintained and now the physical resources and work of the Governing Board are striving to gain a judgement of 'Outstanding' again.

This year, 2015/16 has seen:

- A clear vision statement for the school
- A developing strategy for the future of the school
- Working towards becoming an outstanding school
- Introduction of a Business Manager
- Introduction of a full-time Nurse
- Introduction of a TA responsible for all physiotherapy plans and their implementation
- Increased Governor involvement in school life
- Building plan for the future. New hydrotherapy pool in construction
- Greater security for pupils by the building of new electronic gates/doors

Future and Continuous Improvement

The Governing Board and SLT are constantly striving to improve and develop the school.

Ongoing and future areas of improvement are:

- To continue to raise and maintain pupil standards across all groups
- To invest money into the upgrading of the buildings
- To facilitate an environment where school life is accessible to all pupils regardless of disability
- To improve Governor succession planning