

## **Governance statement July 2020**

The Governing Board is made up of 12 Governors including the Head Teacher, plus 2 Associate and 1 ex officio. At the end of this year 2 governors retired, there is room for a LA/CO opted governor and a Parent governor, elections will take place in term1, 2020/21.

In September 2019 the school had a successful Ofsted.

- There are three main sub committees; Children & Families, Staffing/Finance, Facilities, (Pay and Appeals panels meet when and if necessary) The HT's performance management is overseen by a panel of 3 Governors. Governors will also be represented on the School "Well Being "group.
- As a result of Corona virus all Committees' Terms of Reference & Structure will be reviewed and approved at their first meeting in the Autumn terms. Chairs have been appointed for 2020/21
- The Head teacher (Mr. D. Brown) has provided information, in line with Ofsted requirements (See HT reports in minutes) at each FGB meeting, which includes the SDP and the SEF whilst evaluating progress and achievement. The HT has reported on Safeguarding, Pupil& Sports Premium.
- \*\*In March 2020 all schools (And the country) were locked down as a result of Covid19. School then reopened for vulnerable children and children of key workers. It invited Reception, Year 1& 6 to attend from June1st. All children will be welcomed into school on what would have been an IN Service Day- July 17<sup>th</sup>, to enable them to round off their extraordinary year. It is to reopen to all children in September, when attendance will again be compulsory, except for specific "Shielded pupils".
- All Governors have visited the school within the Governor Visit Programme (Arranged by the DHT) There is a Visit's Policy & Protocol. Reports of visits & training are made by Governors and reported back to FGB.
- Governors attend training in their own time mainly organised by Integra (SG Governor Support). Training opportunities are identified and linked

to the needs of Committees. All training was suspended in March 2019, due to Covid 19.

- All Governors have relevant DBS, relevant Safeguarding training will be reassessed in September or as appropriate.
- A Governance Day was held to enable staff & governors to meet & interact.
- The Pay panel have met twice during the year  
\*\*NB Many activities have been cancelled as a result of Covid 19, the Chair of Governors has kept in contact with the HT by weekly phone calls and the Staff via regular Email. All committees have been cancelled, the HTPM have met and finalised their decisions via E mail. Two FGB meetings have been organised via Teams.

### **Work undertaken during the year September 2019/20**

N.B. All committees report back to FGB with the exception of the HT's Performance Management.

### **Staffing/Finance**

During the academic year the committee has met formally twice with several intermediate visits to the office as well. Due to Covid 19 the third meeting was cancelled, however the approval of the budget for the financial year 2020/21 was agreed in a virtual meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

The committee has been quorate on both occasions with full and active participation by governors.

The committee has sought detailed information about the staffing structure across the school to ensure that a strategy of Good or Better Teaching is consistently delivered to pupils, whilst also seeking confirmation on the wellbeing of the staff and Leadership team.

We have discussed the Finance strategies used by the HT and SLT to ensure that the principle of "value for money and impact on education" is upheld in respect of all of the various funds passed from the local authority, ie Dedicated School Grant; Sports Premium, Pupil Premium. This has been evidenced by a

review of actual expenditure against the planned budget and regular updates of impact assessments.

The governors have monitored the results against the SDP/SIP in order to hold the HT to account and therefore fulfil their statutory duties.

All policies have been reviewed as appropriate to ensure that they are “fit for purpose” and compliant with the needs of the school with any statutory policies then forwarded to FGB for ratification with all others approved within committee.

### **Facilities**

The committee has met twice during the school year and has faithfully addressed all items that are diary driven, whilst at the same time responding to operational issues.

While regularly monitoring and attending to safeguarding and Health& Safety matters the committee has ratified and updated, Lettings policy, Accessibility plan, Terms of Reference and monitored the implementation of Fire Drills.

It has also developed and implemented a rolling maintenance programme, incorporating repairs and new initiatives, the scheduling for which has largely been planned and driven by the HT. This has all been set against the challenge posed by the unprecedented situation arising from Covid 19. A great debt of gratitude is owed to members of staff who, during this period have stepped up to the mark and well outside their job descriptions have undertaken a myriad of tasks for the benefit of the school.

A big thank you to members of the committee for their commitment and support, in particular to the SBM, without whose invaluable support and day to day management, which enabled the function and effectiveness of the committee.

### **Children & Families**

This committee has an overview of the future development and objectives of the school by monitoring and evaluating pupil achievement and scrutinising data on the progress that children make in different subjects and year groups. The committee has only met twice this year.

All agenda items have been linked to the SDP and SIP. The committee ensures the school provides a high quality learning experience, whilst monitoring attendance, policies and best practice for all needs and legal requirements.

The following reports have been monitored;

- Behaviour reports including exclusions. Pupil progress & attainment
- Attendance reports, including leavers & joiners
- AHT & HT reports on Teaching & Learning.
- Information & updates on national assessments
- PP reports, which includes looked after children.

School development reports;

- Information on school meals & catering
- Breakfast & After school clubs
- Overview of key priorities in SDP
- Residential trips & school visits
- Equalities update
- Sport in school
- Emotional wellbeing & Mental Health report

There have also been reports from;

- TLRs- English, Maths, SENCO & Wider curriculum
- Family Link Advisor
- Forest school
- Medical needs
- GDPR

The following policies have been ratified, reviewed or held over;

- Equalities & Cohesion
- Medical Conditions
- Child Protection
- Safeguarding
- Online Safety
- Behaviour & Discipline

- SEND
- GDPR

The terms of reference are currently under review but this has been placed on hold until circumstance allow.

### **Pay Committee**

- HT's performance management panel has met and as a result of Covid 19 have ratified their decisions via email.

### **SEND**

The Governor responsible for EYFS also has responsibility for SEND within the age group.

There is a SEND Governor for the remaining year groups.

### **Envision**

Rise Alliance was renamed Envision during the year and is now made up of 6 schools. It was also decided that HTs and C of G, should meet as separate entities in future, with HTs reporting to FGB on a regular basis. In view of Covid 19 Chairs had communicated via email.

### **Governor objectives for 2020/21**

\*\* As a result of Covid19, Governors will support 100% the Recovery curriculum which will involve the oversight of Wellbeing of all pupils and staff planned for the return to school in September.

- To continue to hold the HT and other leaders to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils and in particular disadvantaged pupils.
- To induct 2 new governors, arrange training & mentoring
- To oversee the financial performance of the school and ensure that all money is spent wisely for the benefit of all pupils, especially Pupil Premium and Sport premium funding.
- For all Governors to be well trained and up to date in the expectations of the role.(Government initiatives, "Integra" & other Governor services

documentation, school visits, sharing responsibility & taking responsibility for individual development)

- To continue to be very aware of the future of the school in the changing educational climate and to act as required.
- To continue to ensure that Safeguarding procedures are effective.
- To instigate succession planning for the Board & its committees, through training.
- To improve the methods of communication between Staff/Parent Body/Governors re the work of the Governing Board.\*\* to instigate Staff / Parent: Carer surveys